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INTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT

FOR THE PERIODIC EVALUATION OF THE DOCTORAL FIELD OF MINES, OIL AND GAS WITH IOSUD UPG in PLOIESTI

**Fundamental field
ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

**Doctoral field:
MINES, OIL AND GAS**

**The data contained in this Report are complete, correct and
in accordance with the principles of university ethics.**

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Prof.Univ.Habil.Dr.Ing. Răzvan George Rîpeanu**

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**PLOIESTI,
March, 2026**

University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiesti

**Internal evaluation report of the field of doctoral studies
MINES, OIL AND GAS**

Approved in the Senate meeting of the University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiesti on
26.03.2026

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**STRUCTURE OF THE INTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT OF THE DOCTORAL FIELD OF UNIVERSITY
STUDIES MINING, OIL AND GAS**

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1. Legal framework

The legal framework that underpins this internal evaluation report of the field of doctoral studies in Mining, Oil and Gas within the IOSUD UPG in Ploiești is based on the provisions of the following normative acts:

1. [Legea Învățământului Superior nr. 199/2023](#)
2. [Ordin 3998/2024 Metodologie abilitare](#)
3. [Ordin 5229/2020 aprobare metodologie acordare atestat abilitare și titlu științific doctor](#)
4. [Ordin 4020/2020 derogare de la prev. legale învățământ superior pe durata stării de urgență în România](#)
5. [Ordin 6129/2016 standarde minimale](#)
6. [Anexă ordin 6129/2016 standarde minimale](#)
7. [OUG 96/2016 modificare acte normative educatie-cercetare-sanatate-formare profesionala](#)
8. [Ordin 3121/2015 proces abilitare](#)
9. [Ordin 3693/2024 aprobare Metodologie-cadru organizare admitere învățământ superior cicluri studii universitare scurtă durată](#)
10. [Ordin 3692/2024 lista programe recunoscute național stabilire grad similitudine lucrări finalizare studii](#)
11. [Ordin 3020/2024 aprobare Regulament-cadru studii universitare doctorat](#)
12. [Ordin 5732/2022 aprobare Metodologie organizare + funcționare învățământ dual](#)
13. [Ordin 3102/2022 aprobare Metodologie-cadru admitere licență, master & doctorat](#)
14. [Ordin 5255/2021 privind verificare etică și deontologie universitară elaborare teze de doctorat](#)
15. [Ordin 3651/2021 Metodologie evaluare studii universitare doctorat](#)
16. [Ordin 5229/2020 aprobare metodologie acordare atestat abilitare și titlu științific doctor](#)
17. [Ordin 5110/2018 standarde minimale naționale pentru titlul doctor](#)
18. [Ordin 3131/2018 includere cursuri etica si integritate academica](#)
19. [Ordin 5376/2017 aprobare domenii & specializări/programe studii universitare corelate cu sectoarele economice potential crestere](#)
20. [HG 681/ 2011 \(reactualizată 2016\) Codul studiilor universitare de doctorat](#)

I. General information

I.1. General description of the higher education institution and the institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD).

The Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești organizes doctoral studies within the framework of the Institution Organizing Doctoral University Studies (IOSUD-UPG Ploiești). The Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești, a higher education institution with tradition, was established by Decree no. 175, published in [Monitorul Oficial al R.P.R. nr. 177 din 3 august 1948](#), under the name of the Bucharest Institute of Oil and Gas. In 1973, according to [Decretului nr. 702 din 28 decembrie 1973 \(Legea nr. 25/1974\)](#), published in the Official Bulletin of the Romanian Socialist Republic of December 30, 1973, the Institute of Petroleum, Gas and Geology of Bucharest merges with the Institute of Petroleum of Ploiești, under the name of the Institute of Petroleum and Gas, headquartered in the Municipality of Ploiești. Currently, the higher education institution operates under the name of the University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești, according to [Hotărârii Guvernului României nr. 23 din 4 ianuarie 2001](#), published in the Official Gazette of Romania no. 18 of January 11, 2001. Through the educational services offered and the research activity carried out, the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești, following the institutional evaluation, received official recognition of the level of quality it ensures by obtaining the **HIGH DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE** rating granted by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education following the institutional evaluation (2019) [UPG Comunicare-calificativ.pdf](#) and **MAINTENANCE OF ACCREDITATION (08.05.2025)** [EI2736 UPG Raport-Consiliu_08.05.2025.pdf](#), [doc00945920260119163322.pdf](#) and the Certificate of Conformity of the Quality Management System with and the Certificate of Conformity of the

Quality Management System with [SR EN ISO 9001](#): 2015 and EN ISO 9001:2015, granted by AEROQ (valid until 07.07.2028 <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Certificat-ISO-9001-2015.pdf>).

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești assumes the mission of generating and transferring knowledge to society through initial and continuing education at university and postgraduate level, for the purpose of personal development, professional insertion of the individual and satisfying the need for competence of the socio-economic environment through scientific research, development, innovation and technological transfer, through individual and collective creation, in the fields of sciences, engineering sciences, economic sciences, arts, social and human sciences, medical sciences, legal sciences, by ensuring physical and sports performance and development, as well as the valorization and dissemination of their results. The strategic plan of the management team establishes the strategic objectives of the university for the period 2024-2029 [Plan-Strategic-2024-2029.pdf](#) in full accordance with the university's assumed mission.

I.2. General description of the organizational component that organizes the field of doctoral university studies

Since its establishment (1948) the University has had the right to conduct doctoral university studies in Annex University founding documents and law on the organization of doctoral studies ([Anexa Documente infiintare universitate si drept organizare studii doctorat](#)).

Within IOSUD UPG in Ploiești there is only one multidisciplinary doctoral school with 4 accredited doctoral fields. Following the ARACIS external evaluation from September 20-24, 2021 and the decision of the ARACIS council no. 97/25.11.2021 [Hotararea-Consiliului-ARACIS-nr.-97-din-25.11.2021.pdf](#), both IOSUD UPG and the doctoral field MINES, OIL and GAS, obtained the Maintenance of accreditation. IOSUD UPG from Ploiești obtained the Maintenance of accreditation following the external institutional evaluation of UPG from Ploiești from 05.03.2025-07.03.2025 [EI2736 UPG Raport-Consiliu 08.05.2025.pdf](#). In addition, the quality management of doctoral studies is certified according to the Certificate of Conformity of the Quality Management System with [SR EN ISO 9001](#): 2015 și EN ISO 9001:2015, granted by AEROQ (valid until 07.07.2028 <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Certificat-ISO-9001-2015.pdf>).

In accordance with the provisions of the National Education Law no. 199/2023 and OM 3020/2024 regarding the Framework Regulation on doctoral studies, provisions included in the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at UPG Ploiesti https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf. The doctorate is of two types: scientific doctorate and professional doctorate. According to the specifics of its fundamental fields of training and the approvals it holds from the Ministry of Education and Research, the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești is an Organizing Institution of Doctoral University Studies – IOSUD only for the type of scientific doctorate. In IOSUD-UPG of Ploiești, doctoral university studies are organized in the form of full-time and part-time education. All data regarding the doctoral field of Mining, Oil and Gas can be found at the web address <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>. In IOSUD - Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești, a multidisciplinary doctoral school operates with 27 doctoral supervisors in the already accredited/authorized fields ([Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](#)) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>).

Currently (academic year 2025-2026) in IOSUD UPG Ploiesti 4 doctoral fields are accredited:

- Doctoral field Mining, Oil and Gas with 9 doctoral supervisors and 56 doctoral students;
- Doctoral field Mechanical Engineering with 8 doctoral supervisors and 28 doctoral students;
- Doctoral field Chemical Engineering with 4 doctoral supervisors and 19 doctoral students;
- Doctoral field Systems Engineering with 6 doctoral supervisors and 21 doctoral students;

Information is available on the IOSUD website: [Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](#) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>). The old IOSUD website has been preserved and can be found at [Școala Doctorală – Arhivă – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#).

IOSUD Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești organizes doctoral studies in the following fields:

No. crt	Doctoral field	Master's programs in the field
1	Mines Oil and Gas	1. Well Drilling, 2. Oil Extraction, 3. Hydrocarbon Transportation, Storage and Distribution Technology, 4. Management in the Oil Industry 5. Reservoir Engineering, 6. Renewable and Green Energies, 7. Petroleum Engineering.
2	Mechanical Engineering	1. Hydrocarbon Transportation and Storage Systems Engineering 2. Risk Management and Reliability Engineering of Petroleum and Petrochemical Equipment 3. Optimal Operation Engineering of Petroleum Equipment 4. Risk Management and Reliability Engineering of Petroleum and Petrochemical Equipment (EN) 5. Petroleum and Petrochemical Equipment Production Engineering and Management
3	Systems Engineering	1. Advanced Automation
4	Chemical Engineering	1. Advanced Technologies in Petroleum Processing Specialization 2. Computer-Aided Chemical Engineering Specialization for Refineries and Petrochemicals

During the 78 years since doctoral university study programs have been in operation, 892 scientific doctorate degrees have been awarded and confirmed, their distribution by faculties (in the existing structure in 2026) being presented as follows:

- Petroleum and Gas Engineering - 382;
- Mechanical and Electrical Engineering - 285;
- Petroleum and Petrochemical Technology - 225.

The hierarchy within IOSUD, as well as the subordination and collaboration relationships, can be found in the UPG Ploiesti Organizational Chart ([Organigrama – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#)). In accordance with the provisions of law 199/2023 and the Framework Regulation on doctoral university studies, from 08.01.2024 part of OM 3020/2024 and its own Regulation, the Council for Doctoral University Studies (CSUD-UPG Ploiesti) ensures the operational management of the institution organizing doctoral university studies. The CSUD composition of IOSUD-UPG is made up of 1 director and 8 members.

The CSUD composition is visible at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/iosud/csud> (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>).

First and last name	Position
Prof.Univ.Habil. Dr. Eng. Răzvan George RIPEANU	Director – CSUD, coordinator of the Mechanical Engineering field
Prof.Univ.Habil. Dr. Timur-Vasile CHIȘ	Member – coordinator of the Mining, Oil and Gas field– Director of the Doctoral School
Prof. Univ.Dr. Eng. Nicolae PARASCHIV	Member- Coordinator of the Systems Engineering field
Prof. Univ.Habil. Dr. Eng. Dragoș CIUPARU	Member-Chemical Engineering field
Prof. Univ.Habil. Dr. Eng. Marius Gabriel PETRESCU	Member-Mechanical Engineering field
Dr. Eng. Andrei Cosmin SÎRBU	Member-PhD student
Drd. Eng. Andreea Cristina ALEXANDRESCU	Member-PhD student
Dr.Eng. Cristian CĂLIN	Member-economic environment
Eng. Robert Stelian CHIRCĂ	Member-economic environment

The operational management of the Doctoral School is ensured by the Doctoral School Council and its Director. The composition of the CSD is available at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/iosud/csd> (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>).

First and last name	Position
Prof.Univ.Habil. Dr. Timur-Vasile CHIȘ	Member – coordinator of the Mining, Oil and Gas field– Director of the Doctoral School
Prof. Univ.Habil. Dr. Eng. Marius Gabriel PETRESCU	Member-Mechanical Engineering field
Prof.Univ.Habil.Dr.Eng. Radulescu Gabriel	Member - Systems Engineering Field
Prof. Univ.Habil. Dr. Eng. Diana CURSARU	Member-Coordinator of the Chemical Engineering field
Drd. Eng.Bajan Marian	Member-PhD student
Drd. Eng.Vacarescu Sondra- Preascilla-Ioana	Member-PhD student
Drd. Eng.Iacob Dragos Valentin	Member-PhD student
Drd. Eng.Bejan Diana-Rita	Member-PhD student
Eng. Carstea Vasile	Member-economic environment
Dr. Eng.Enache Florin	Member-economic environment
Ec. Paltineanu Ciprian Emanuel	Member-economic environment

I.3. General description of the field of doctoral studies

The doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS submitted the Internal Evaluation Report ([Anexa. Raport de evaluare interna, coordonator, evaluator international si de progres](#)) (Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report) in 2021 and following the ARACIS external evaluation from September 20-24, 2021 and the ARACIS council decision no. 97/25.11.2021 [Hotararea-Consiliului-ARACIS-nr.-97-din-25.11.2021.pdf](#), ([Anexa. Raport de evaluare interna, coordonator, evaluator international si de progres](#) (Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report)) has obtained the Maintenance of accreditation.

The accreditation documents are attached. IOSUD UPG from Ploiești has obtained the Maintenance of accreditation following the external institutional evaluation of UPG from Ploiești from 05.03.2025-07.03.2025 [EI2736_UPG_Raport-Consiliu_08.05.2025.pdf](#).

În following the submission of the internal progress report in October 2024, the interim external evaluation report of the doctoral field of Mining, Oil and Gas (Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report ([Anexa. Raport de evaluare interna, coordonator, evaluator international si de progres](#))) was drawn up on July 23, 2025.

In the doctoral field of Mining, Oil and Gas, 9 doctoral supervisors (5 tenured - 55.5%) and 56 doctoral students are active in the 2025-2026 academic year, compared to 8 doctoral supervisors (5 tenured - 50.0%) and 49 doctoral students in the 2020-2021 academic year.

The number of doctoral theses defended during the 5 years (2016-2019) prior to the external evaluation was 10, and during the last 5 academic years 30 theses (2021-2025) ([Anexa. Teze doctorat MPG 2015-2020 și Teze de doctorat MPG 2021-2026](#)), Annex. Doctoral theses MPG 2015-2020 and Doctoral theses MPG 2021-2026).

II. Preparation of the internal evaluation report

The internal evaluation report was prepared by the coordinator of the doctoral field of Mines, Oil and Gas, Prof. Univ. Habil.Dr. Eng. Timur-Vasile Chiș, timur-vasile@upg-ploiesti.ro , tel 0770547474, with the support of doctoral supervisors, two doctoral graduates and a doctoral student:

Doctoral supervisors:

1. Prof. Habil. Dr. Eng. Mihai Adrian ALBULESCU malbulescu@upg-ploiesti.ro
2. Prof. Dr. Eng. Lazăr AVRAM lavram@upg-ploiesti.ro
3. Prof. Habil.Dr. Eng. Gheorghe Adrian BRĂNOIU gbranoiu@yahoo.com
4. Prof. Habil.Dr. Eng. Timur-Vasile CHIȘ timur-vasile@upg-ploiesti.ro

5. Prof. Habil.Dr. Eng. Cristian Nicolae EPARU cristian.eparu@gmail.com
6. Prof. Dr. Eng. Iulian NISTOR nistor@upg-ploiesti.ro
7. Prof. Habil.Dr. Eng. . Cașen PANAITESCU cpanaitescu@upg-ploiesti.ro
8. Prof. Habil.Dr. Eng. . Maria STOICESCU stoicescu.maria@yahoo.com
9. Prof. Habil.Dr. Eng. . Silvian SUDITU ssuditu@upg-ploiesti.ro

From the doctoral graduates, the following were members of the team:

Lecturer dr. eng. Dragos CRISTEA. dragos.cristea@upg-ploiesti.ro

- Lecturer dr. eng. Doru STOICA, dorustoica@gmail.com

On behalf of the doctoral students, they participated in the development of the report:

- Drd. Rami DOUKEH rami.doukeh@yahoo.com

III. Information required to assess the degree of fulfillment of standards and performance indicators

AREA A. Institutional capacity

DOMAINE A. Institutional capacity

Criterion A.1. Institutional structures and processes of managerial and administrative type, involving students and other stakeholders

Standard S.A.1.1. Organizational components and institutional processes The HEI has in its structure organizational components that operate on the basis of appropriate competencies, attributions, processes and application procedures, which ensure an effective management system.

Indicator I.P.A.1.1.1 For the development of the program/field of university studies, the HEI has organizational components and an adequate management system, the functioning of which is based on methodologies, regulations and procedures reviewed periodically, in accordance with the law.

The Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiesti has and applies the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiesti. (<https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/R-01-02-REGULAMENT-DE-ORGANIZARE-SI-FUNCTIONARE-A-UNIVERSITATII-PETROL-GAZE-DIN-PLOIESTI-02.12.2024-1.pdf>).

(a) Internal regulations of the administrative structures (institutional regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies, regulations of doctoral schools).

At the level of IOSUD Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti, specific regulations for doctoral studies exist and are applied, https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf.

A multidisciplinary doctoral school operates at IOSUD - University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești. Information is available on the IOSUD website: [Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești \(Școala Doctorală – Arhivă – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești\)](#)

The hierarchy within IOSUD, as well as the subordination and collaboration relationships, can be found in the UPG Ploiesti Organizational Chart. ([Organigrama – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#)).

The organization and operation of doctoral studies conducted at the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești, in the last 5 years, has been carried out in accordance with: Regulation for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești (valid for doctoral students enrolled before the 2019-2020 academic year) which can be accessed at (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/Regulament_privind_organizarea_studiilor_universitare_de_doctorat_valabil_ptr_doctoranzi_inmatriculati_inainte_de_2019-2020.pdf), Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești (valid for doctoral students enrolled starting with the 2019-2020 academic year) which can be accessed at (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/Regulament_privind_organizarea_studiilor_universitare_de_doctorat_valabil_ptr_doctoranzi_inmatriculati_incepand_cu_2019-2020.pdf).

The Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești has been updated to implement the specifications of the Education Law 199/2023 and OM 3020/2024, was approved in the meeting of the University Senate on 14.03.2024 and can be accessed at (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf).

Also, the multidisciplinary doctoral school within IOSUD-UPG Ploiesti carries out its activity in accordance with the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the doctoral school within IOSUD - Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiesti, adopted at the Senate meeting of 17.04.2025 and is available at: (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/01-R-07.08_3.0-Regulemnt_de_organizare_si_functionare_a_Scolii_doctorale.pdf).

(b) Methodology for conducting elections at the level of CSUD, doctoral school and evidence of their conduct

At the address ([CSUD - Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești \(upg-ploiesti.ro\)](https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro)) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>) you can consult the documents related to the election of CSUD UPG-Ploiesti members:

- Election office composition,
- Election calendar for members of the council for university doctoral studies,
- Methodology for organizing elections and appointing members of the council,
- Candidate file for membership of the council for university doctoral studies,
- List of doctoral supervisor candidates,
- List of doctoral student candidates,
- List of doctoral student electors,
- List of doctoral supervisor electors,
- Decision on appointing CSUD members.

The management structures of the Doctoral School at IOSUD – UPG Ploiesti were established based on the Methodology for organizing and conducting the process of establishing and electing management structures and functions at the Oil and Gas University of Ploiesti, which is available at (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2020/R%20001.10_5.2.pdf).

(c) Methodology for conducting the last competition for the position of Director of the Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD) of IOSUD - UPG Ploiesti was organized and conducted according to the Methodology for organizing and conducting the competition for the position of Director of the Council for Doctoral Studies at IOSUD - Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti ([REGULAMENT \(upg-ploiesti.ro\)](https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro)).

The competition committee consisted of:

1. Prof.univ.dr.chem. Horia Iovu- Director of CSUD Politenica Bucharest;
2. Prof.univ.dr.eng. Mihai Sorin Radu- Rector of the University of Petroșani;
3. Prof.univ.habil.dr.eng. Ioan Calin Roșca- Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Univ. Transilvania Brașov;
4. Prof.univ.dr.eng. Mihai Arghir- Director of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Complex Systems, Université de Poitiers, France;
5. Prof.univ.dr.eng. Nicolae Paraschiv, University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești.

Following the winning of the competition for director of CSUD-UPG Ploiești, Mr. Prof.univ.habil.dr.eng. Răzvan George Rîpeanu is validated by the University Senate in the meeting of 9.03.2023 and is appointed as CSUD director by the decision of the UPG rector of 10.03.2024, for a 4-year term until 09.03.2027.

In accordance with the provisions of law 199/2023 and the Framework Regulation on doctoral studies, of 08.01.2024 part of OM 3020/2024 and its own Regulation, the Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD-UPG Ploiesti) ensures the operational management of the institution organizing doctoral studies. The CSUD composition of IOSUD-UPG is made up of 1 director and 8 members. The CSUD composition is visible at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/iosud/csud> .

The operational management of the Doctoral School is ensured by the Doctoral School Council and its Director. The composition of the CSD is available at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/iosud/csd> .

It can be seen that in the CSUD structure, doctoral students have 2 representatives, and in the CSD structure they have 4 representatives.

(d) Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (admission of doctoral students, completion of doctoral studies);

Admission to the doctoral program is carried out in accordance with [Metodologia de organizare si desfasurare a concursului de admitere la doctorat 2025](#), methodology that is updated annually.

All information regarding admission to the doctoral program is also posted on the website of the UPG in Ploiesti and the Doctoral School ([Admitere - Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](#)) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission>) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission/admission-for-eu-citizens>) and (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission/admission-for-non-eu-citizens>) namely:

- Admission Methodology
- Admission Calendar
- Academic Year Structure
- List of Doctoral Supervisors - Admission Places
- Required Documents
- Admission Topics.
- Admission Results
- Annual Fees.

(e) Functional management structures [(IOSUD / CSUD / Doctoral School Council (regularity of convening meetings))]

The CSUD and CSD members of IOSUD-UPG meet in meetings (including online during the state of emergency) whenever necessary.

Curriculum plans, regulations, public thesis defense committees, applications for affiliation to IOSUD-UPG, applications for extension of the doctoral internship, elections for vacant or temporarily vacant positions, etc. are debated and approved in CSD and CSUD meetings.

In [A Anexa. Sedinte CSD -CSUD](#) (Annex. CSD -CSUD meetings).The dates of the CSD and CSUD meetings can be found at: [Metodologii, regulamente și legislație – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#) se find the CSUD decisions posted. Doctoral fields also have a field coordinator. The duties of the field coordinator are stipulated in art.14 of [01-R-07.08 3.0- ROF-SD-martie-2025-MODIFICATA-JURIST.pdf](#).

The main responsibilities of the field coordinator are:

- a) ensuring the interface between the doctoral field and the CSD;
- b) proposing affiliation to the Doctoral School or proposing revocation of the quality of doctoral supervisor in the respective field;
- c) proposing the reallocation of the leadership of an ongoing doctoral program to another doctoral supervisor, under the conditions provided by law;
- d) mediating possible conflicts between doctoral students and doctoral supervisors who carry out activities within the respective field;
- e) proposing the curriculum for the advanced university studies program of the field;
- f) proposing the minimum scientific performance standards for the affiliation of doctoral supervisors to the Doctoral School, for the respective field, in compliance with the legislation in force.

CSD and CSUD Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești propose criteria, procedures and standards regarding the obligations regarding the attendance and activities of doctoral students. The form of conducting doctoral studies in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS is full-time or part-time.

The required actual presence of the doctoral student is decided by the doctoral supervisor, depending on the specifics of the doctoral program and in compliance with the provisions of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the University of Petrol – Gaze of Ploiești.

(f) Doctoral study contract

After admission, for each doctoral student, the Doctoral study contract is completed, which is standard SMQ no. F 299.13/Ed.8 revised 2025. ([Anexa. Contract de studii universitare de doctorat buget și Contract de studii universitare de doctorat taxa](#)) (Annex. Doctoral university studies contract budget and Doctoral university studies contract fee). Doctoral students enrolled in the first year are required to complete the advanced university preparation and documentation program. This program is carried out based on a curriculum specific to each doctoral field, approved in the joint meeting of

the CSD and CSUD on 12.06.2025 and approved in the senate meeting on 22.07.2025, [SENATUL UNIVERSITĂȚII PETROL – GAZE DIN PLOIEȘTI](#), being available on the IOSUD website (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze>). Students enrolled in the doctoral program can also carry out teaching activities.

In the 2025-2026 academic year, 2 of the doctoral students in the MINING, OIL AND GAS doctoral field also occupy fixed-term assistant positions within the Geology and Reservoir Engineering department of the UPG in Ploiești.

Also, 1 doctoral student is a teaching staff member of the Hydrocarbon Drilling, Extraction, Transport and Storage Department, namely Dr. Rami DOUKEH, and one doctoral student is an engineer within the Geology and Reservoir Engineering department (Dr. Ionuț LUNGU).

At the same time, after defending their doctoral theses in the last 5 years, 4 graduates of the doctoral study program were confirmed in their positions (Lecturer Dr. Eng. Dragoș CRISTEA, Lecturer Dr. Eng. Doru STOICA, Lecturer Dr. Eng. Bogdan IONETE and Lecturer Dr. Eng. Doru BÎRSAN).

According to art. 12, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32 and 33 of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești, the Doctoral School of UPG provides doctoral students with training programs based on advanced university studies (PPA), their subject sheets being voted by the CSD and CSUD and the individual scientific research program (PCS). The doctoral school is obliged to ensure free and unrestricted access to the advanced training program to all doctoral students within the doctoral school or within other doctoral schools. ([REGULAMENT](#)). The PPA and PCS are annexes to the doctoral university study contract. ([Anexa. PPA PCS](#)) (Annex. PPA PCS) presents an example of these plans in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS).

(g) Specifications regarding doctoral studies

In the Regulation regarding the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R%2007_05%20Regulament%20privind%20organizarea%20si%20desfasurarea%20stud%20univ%20drd%20la%20UPG%20Ploiesti.pdf) specifies the IOSUD obligations of the Doctoral School, the supervisor and the doctoral student.

In exceptional situations such as the Covid-19 pandemic, the taking of exams, research reports, the thesis defense and the public defense of the doctoral thesis can also be carried out online. The procedure for the pre-defense and defense of doctoral theses during the state of emergency can be found on the UPG and Doctoral School website at https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/Procedura_de_presustinere_a_tezelor_de_doctorat_pe_durata_staril_or_de_urgenta.pdf).

CSD and CSUD propose mandatory criteria, procedures and standards regarding the change of the doctoral supervisor of a given doctoral student and the procedures for mediating conflicts (art. 21 paragraphs 1, 2 and 3). At the motivated request of the doctoral student, CSD may approve the change of the doctoral supervisor if it has been found that the legal or contractual obligations assumed by him have not been fulfilled, or for other reasons regarding the supervision relationship between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student. The doctoral school council designates another doctoral supervisor, and when designating him, CSD will consider, as a priority, the completion by the doctoral student of the doctoral thesis and the study program. CSD and CSUD propose mandatory criteria, procedures and standards regarding the conditions under which the doctoral program may be interrupted (art. 3.18). The doctorate may be interrupted for medical reasons, in order to take maternity leave or child-rearing leave, or for other valid reasons, under the conditions established by the doctoral school regulations. Interruptions, the cumulative duration of which is no more than 4 academic semesters, are approved by the university senate, at the request of the doctoral student, with the approval of the doctoral supervisor and the director of the doctoral school. (art. 5). According to art. 24 (1) the duration of the doctoral program established by law may be extended by 1-2 years, with the approval of the CSUD-UPG, the University Senate, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor. Doctoral studies may be interrupted at the request of the doctoral student for valid reasons, under the conditions established by the doctoral school regulations. The duration of doctoral studies is extended

by the cumulative periods of the approved interruptions. Interruptions are approved by the CSUD, with the approval of the doctoral supervisor and the CSD. The extension, respectively the interruption of doctoral studies are the subject of an addendum to the doctoral studies contract. Art. 25. specifies that, if the doctoral student fails to complete the thesis within the time limit established according to the doctoral studies contract (4 years) and any addendums thereto, he/she is automatically expelled. During the 1-2 year extension period, the doctoral student cannot benefit from a doctoral scholarship or other financial support granted from doctoral grants. (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R%2007_05%20Regulament%20privind%20organizarea%20si%20desfasurarea%20stud%20univ%20drd%20la%20UPG%20Ploiesti.pdf). According to art. 11 and 14 of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești, doctoral students have unrestricted access to all the infrastructure available at the university, regardless of its administrator. By the CA decision no. 4392 of 23.11.2015 presented in [Anexa Hotărâre CA privind accesul studentilor doctoranzi](#) (Annex CA Decision regarding the access of doctoral students)on the access of doctoral students, the access of doctoral students, their supervision and the manner of compliance with the norms of protection and safety at work are regulated.

Doctoral supervisors must do all due diligence so that the authors of doctoral theses comply with the standards of quality and professional ethics, including ensuring the originality of the content. The anti-plagiarism procedure within the Perol-Gaze University of Ploiesti related to the originality of the content of doctoral theses is respected, according to the Code of Professional Ethics and Deontology of the UPG, Code R01-01 Code of University Ethics and Deontology (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/01.01_Cod_Etica.pdf) and art 36 and 37 which provide for verification using the Similarity Verification System. In the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti there is a software system for detecting plagiarism, which is an online tool dedicated to verifying all documents with sources located in the University's own database (archived documents), in the databases of other Universities (based on the declaration of mutual database exchange), internet resources. The anti-plagiarism report contains information related to: the title of the work; the author/authors; the type of document (book, guide, doctoral thesis, article, etc.), as well as the values of the similarity coefficients 1 and 2. Similarity coefficient 1 – expresses the percentage level of borrowings found in certain sources that contain at least 5 words. Similarity coefficient 2 – expresses the percentage level of borrowings that contain at least 25 words. The limit accepted in our institution is a maximum of 5% ([SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO](#)). The organization and conduct of the public defense session of the doctoral thesis, provides, as part of the preliminary operations for submitting the thesis to the doctoral secretariat, that the doctoral student submits the doctoral thesis in digital format together with the request for the initiation of the procedures for analyzing similarities and evaluating the thesis by the guidance committee. The similarity report is submitted to the doctoral supervisor within a maximum of 30 days, and he/she draws up the resolution regarding the similarity report.

In [Anexa Rapoarte de similitudine](#) (Annex Similarity reports) examples are given from a doctoral student who defended the thesis. The REI platform contains similarity reports from 2020-2024 and also similarity reports from 2025 and 2026, at least 2, are uploaded to the REI platform when registering the doctoral student's documents.

Each doctoral student benefits from a guidance and academic integrity committee consisting of 4 members - the supervisor and 3 more teaching staff appointed annually by decision of the UPG rector. In order to comply with OM 3020/2024 which specifies that at least one member of the guidance and academic integrity committee must be from outside IOSUD, all committees were updated in 2024 in compliance with the aforementioned order ([Anexa. Decizii comisii de îndrumare și integritate academică](#)) (Annex. Decisions of the academic guidance and integrity committee).

The members of the Academic Guidance and Integrity Committee are also members of the Research Report and Doctoral Thesis Pre-Defense Committees and can thus monitor the progress of the doctoral student. The exams in the Advanced University Training Program are proposed by the doctoral supervisor and are approved by the Director of the Doctoral School. Each exam or paper is

taken after the candidate makes a request. ([Anexa. Cerere și PV examen-raport cercetare](#)) (Annex. Application and PV exam-research report). The examination committee is composed of the doctoral supervisor and 2 members (at least one of whom is the holder of the examination discipline), a request that is approved by the director of the Doctoral School. The individual plan of the scientific research program is approved by the director of the Doctoral School. The committees for defending scientific research reports are approved by the director of the Doctoral School. Scientific research reports are subject to similarity verification by the doctoral school secretariat before defense (the reduced report is archived in the doctoral student's file), and the result of the verification is brought to the attention of the academic guidance and integrity committee, as well as the audience at the public defense meeting. The committee includes the doctoral supervisor and members of the academic guidance and integrity committee. The defense of research reports is done in public sessions, the sessions being announced at least 48 hours before the defense on the Doctoral School noticeboard. The minutes of the research report presentation shall mention all the observations of the members present at the meeting. The doctoral thesis proposals shall be formulated by the doctoral supervisors after discussions with representatives of the industrial environment. ([Anexa. Cerere și PV examen-raport cercetare](#)) (Annex. Application and PV exam-research report).

The papers of doctoral students in the Mining, Oil and Gas Domain are reposted (posted) in a public online portal, along with anti-plagiarism checks and evaluation reports prepared by the coordination committees. ([Anexa. Referat recenzie doctoranzi MPG și Comisii de coordonare](#)) (Annex. Review report for MPG doctoral students and Coordination Committees) according to Order No. 3018/2025 of January 13, 2025 on the approval of the minimum national standards necessary and mandatory for the award of the doctoral degree ISSUER: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PUBLISHED IN: OFFICIAL GAZETTE NO. 78 of January 29, 2025, for commission 12, Commission for geological engineering, geodetic engineering, mines, oil and gas. minimum standards for the award of the doctoral degree) (https://www.edu.ro/sites/default/files/fisiere%20articole/OMEC_3018-2025.pdf and [Anexa. Referat recenzie doctoranzi MPG și Comisii de coordonare](#)) (Annex. Review report for MPG doctoral students and Coordination Committees).

(h). Completion of doctoral studies

The procedure for organizing and conducting the public hearing for the defense of the doctoral thesis, provides, as part of the preliminary operations for submitting the thesis to the doctoral secretariat, that the doctoral student submits the doctoral thesis in digital format together with the request for the initiation of the procedures for analyzing similarities and evaluating the thesis by the academic guidance and integrity committee.

The doctoral secretariat transmits the doctoral thesis in its final electronic form for the similarity analysis to be performed using the sistemantiplagiat.ro software application.

The similarity report is submitted to the doctoral supervisor within a maximum of 30 days, and he/she draws up the resolution regarding the similarity report. Doctoral students can request this verification 2 times free of charge during their doctoral internship and for a modest cost of 25 lei as many times as they wish.

All doctoral theses starting with April 2016 are subject to anti-plagiarism verification. These reports for all defended doctoral theses are uploaded to the REI platform of the Ministry of Education and Research.

In art.36 of https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf It is specified that the doctoral thesis can be defended if: a) the doctoral student has accumulated 150 transferable credits during the doctoral studies and meets the minimum standards set by CNADTCU for his/her doctoral field; b) the doctoral student submits the thesis to the secretariat for doctoral studies; c) The doctoral school performs the similarity analysis, using a program recognized by CNADTCU.

The doctoral school may additionally request the use of a program developed at national level regarding the detection of similarities.

The analysis and interpretation of the result of the similarity report are carried out both by the academic guidance and integrity committee and by the person/persons designated by the doctoral school, usually the doctoral supervisor, before the doctoral thesis is defended. The similarity reports are included in the "doctoral file" ([Anexa. Rapoarte de similitudine platforme REI-Model evaluare raport similitudini-Model evaluare raport similitudini persoana imputernicita](#)) (Annex. Similarity reports for REI platforms-Model for evaluation of similarity report-Model for evaluation of similarity report for authorized person).

The verification period cannot exceed 10 days from the date of submission of the doctoral thesis to IOSUD; d) in the event that the similarity report indicates the need to make changes to the doctoral thesis, the doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor are officially notified by the Doctoral School. After the elements reported are remedied, the steps from letters b) and c) are resumed; e) the identification of violations of good conduct in research and development, including plagiarism of results or publications of other authors, fabrication of results or replacement of results with fictitious data at the time of the thesis evaluation by the doctoral supervisor or by the Academic Guidance and Integrity Committee, must be notified to the University Ethics Committee, for analysis. If the University Ethics Committee establishes the guilt of plagiarism, the doctoral student is expelled. f) the doctoral thesis is presented to the Academic Guidance and Integrity Committee. The scheduling of the thesis defense cannot exceed 30 days from the date of receipt of the similarity report by the committee; g) after this pre-defense, which is public, the doctoral supervisor, in accordance with the recommendation of the committee and the results of the analysis of the similarity report, decides on the official submission of the thesis and the organization of the public defense; h) the acceptance report of the doctoral supervisor and the agreement of the committee members are included in the "doctoral file"; the doctoral thesis is officially submitted to the Doctoral School secretariat, in printed and electronic format, accompanied by the result of the analysis of the similarity report carried out by the designated person(s), together with the summary of the doctoral thesis, the doctoral student's CV, the list of the doctoral student's papers, the doctoral student's published papers and the estimated date for the public defense; the Doctoral School secretariat certifies the fulfillment by the doctoral student of all obligations within the doctoral university study program) the doctoral thesis and its annexes will be available for public consultation for 90 calendar days, prior to the public defense, on the national platform managed by the Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI), in accordance with the legal provisions in force in the field of copyright; j) during the period in which the thesis is public on the national platform, any natural or legal person may make observations regarding the existence of deviations from the standards of ethics and deontology, including from the perspective of the existence of plagiarism. Observations can be submitted online, to an e-mail address provided by the Doctoral School, or to the IOSUD UPG registry. The observations are recorded in a report drawn up by the Doctoral School, which will be sent to CSUD for analysis and decision in order to validate the initiation of the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis and will be part of the doctoral file ([Anexa. Anexa F 714 Referat SD validare CSUD sustinere publica teza](#)) (Annex. Annex F 714 SD report for CSUD validation, public defense of the thesis) ; k) if the CSUD decision is of validation, the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis is initiated by establishing the doctoral committee; l) if the CSUD invalidates the initiation of the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis, the Doctoral School receives recommendations regarding the rewriting of the doctoral thesis and the elimination of situations that do not comply with the standards of ethics and deontology, and the doctoral student is obliged to remedy the content of the thesis within 3 months from the communication of the decision to invalidate the defense, with the resumption of the procedure for making the work transparent. After the consultation period on the REI platform, the thesis is rechecked for similarities, and if small corrections are made in it, a third check of similarities is carried out (3) The composition of the doctoral committee is proposed by the doctoral supervisor, endorsed by the Doctoral School and approved by the CSUD. The doctoral committee is composed of at least 5 members: the president, as a representative of IOSUD-UPG, the doctoral supervisor and at least 3 referees from the country or abroad, specialists in the field in which the doctoral thesis was developed

and of which at least 2 carry out their activity outside IOSUD-UPG. The members of the doctoral committee have a doctorate degree and have at least the teaching position of associate professor or scientific researcher level II or have the quality of doctoral supervisor, in the country or abroad; (4) The request for setting the date of the public defense of the doctoral thesis is formulated by the doctoral student, endorsed by the doctoral supervisor and the president of the defense committee. The request is registered with the secretariat of the Doctoral School at least 25 calendar days before the proposed date for defense. The proposed date for defense cannot be earlier than the previously estimated date for the public defense.

(5) The doctoral school prepares and posts the announcement for the public defense at least 20 calendar days before the proposed defense date. (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/sustinere-teza/27-2022-anunturi-sustinere-teza-de-doctorat/177-doukeh-rami-1>). This must include the location, date and time of the defense, the doctoral supervisor(s), as well as the place where the full text of the thesis can be consulted in printed format. The announcement of the public defense, the thesis summary in electronic format, the scientific memorandum, the PhD student's CV, the CVs of the members of the public defense committee of the doctoral thesis or links to them are displayed on the IOSUD-UPG website. (6) The doctoral thesis is defended in a public session before the doctoral committee, after the evaluation by all the referees and the submission of their reports at least 15 days before the defense of the thesis. The defense of the doctoral thesis may take place in the presence of at least 4 of the members of the doctoral committee, with the mandatory physical participation of the committee chair and the doctoral supervisor, the other members of the committee being able to participate also in an online videoconference system. The public defense must include a question session from the members of the doctoral committee and the public. (7) Based on the public defense of the doctoral thesis, the referees' reports, the statement on the originality of the work and the analysis on the degree of similarity, the doctoral committee evaluates and deliberates on the award of the doctoral degree, in compliance with the minimum standards developed by CNATDCU for the award of the doctoral degree. At <https://www.old.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/doctorat/R%2007%2042%20aprobat%20Senat%202024.pdf> is found the Operational Procedure COD: R 07.42 Defending the doctoral thesis, a procedure that was approved by the Monitoring Commission on 12.12.2024 and approved in the meeting of the Senate of the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești on 12.12.2024.

(i) Existence of mechanisms for recognizing the quality of doctoral supervisor and equivalence of the doctorate obtained in other states.

In IOSUD UPG Ploiești there is a regulation Procedure regarding the automatic recognition by the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești of the quality of doctoral supervisor obtained in accredited higher education institutions abroad. This can be found at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07-01-RECUNOASTEREA-AUTOMATA-A-CALITATII-DE-CONDUCATOR-DE-DOCTORAT-OBTINUTE-IN-INSTIUTII-DE-INVATAMANT-SUPERIOR-SAU-DE-CERCETARE-DEZVOLTARE-DIN-STRAINATATE.pdf>. Affiliation to IOSUD-UPG is done in compliance with the Regulation on the public defense of habilitation theses and the co-optation of doctoral supervisors at the Petroleum - Gas University of Ploiești. (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R07.06_4.0_REGULAMENTUL%20PRI-VIND%20SUS%20C5%A2INEREA%20PUBLIC%20C4%82%20A%20TEZELOR%20DE%20ABILITARE.pdf). In art.3 (a) and (b), art.7(1) art.14 (a),(b),(c),(d), art.(15) and art.(16) the conditions regarding the organization and conduct of the affiliation process and the granting of membership of the Doctoral School within IOSUD-UPG are specified. After obtaining the habilitation certificate, the Doctoral School Council appoints a commission that verifies the file of the candidate who wishes to affiliate and in case of its favorable opinion in the CSD meeting, this affiliation is proposed and validated in the CSUD and approved in the University Senate of UPG Ploiesti. Doctoral supervisors are subject to internal and external analysis at an interval not exceeding 5 years. In the Regulation regarding the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiesti in art.50 (1), (2), (3) and (4) (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R07.06_4.0_REGULAMENTUL%20PRI-VIND%20SUS%20C5%A2INEREA%20PUBLIC%20C4%82%20A%20TEZELOR%20DE%20ABILITARE.pdf).

ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R%2007_05%20Regulament%20privind%20organizarea%20si%20desfasurarea%20stud%20univ%20drd%20la%20UPG%20Ploiesti.pdf) these requirements regarding the evaluation of doctoral supervisors are provided, and disaffiliation is proposed by the CSD through the Regulations of the doctoral school of the Oil and Gas University of Ploiești [01-R-07.08_3.0-ROF-SD-martie-2025.pdf](http://ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R%2007_05%20Regulament%20privind%20organizarea%20si%20desfasurarea%20stud%20univ%20drd%20la%20UPG%20Ploiesti.pdf) under art.14(b) and art. 21((1) and (2)) disaffiliation from the Doctoral School of IOSUD-UPG can be done as follows: (1) At the request of the doctoral supervisor. (2) Following a notification received from the Ethics Commission of UPG-Ploiești regarding the violation of ethical norms by an affiliated doctoral supervisor. (3) Upon finding failure to meet the minimum standards established by CNADTCU on the date of submission of a new self-evaluation report, but not more than 5 years later (4) following final decisions by CNADTCU to withdraw the doctoral title as a result of plagiarism complaints for two or more coordinated doctoral theses.

Standard S.A.1.2. Stakeholder Involvement The IÎS demonstrates that it involves relevant stakeholders in the development of methodologies and regulations, as well as application procedures
Indicator I.P.A.1.2.1 The opinions of faculty and department members, respectively the branch or extension and other stakeholders are taken into account in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and application procedures.

All regulations, methodologies and procedures related to the doctoral school after their development are discussed and approved in the CSD, CSUD, checked in the quality management committee, are subject to debate by the academic community by posting them on the UPG Intranet, then are approved in the board of directors and approved in the university Senate. In all these stages, all proposals of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students are collected and submitted to a vote, in the appropriate stages of approval/approval. The CSD, CSUD, and the Board of Directors include both doctoral supervisors and doctoral students. In addition to posting their final approved form on the UPG website, they are also sent by email to all doctoral supervisors and doctoral students. UPG has in force the Operational Procedure regarding the evaluation of student and other interested parties' satisfaction, approved by the Monitoring Commission on 20.11.2024 and approved in the Senate meeting of the Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești on 28.11.2024 ([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfacție și Chestionar satisfacție studenți-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers).

The procedure is applied in the Petrol Gaze University of Ploiești to assess the satisfaction of students and other stakeholders in relation to the services offered by this institution regarding the endowment and use of the library, social services (dormitory, canteen), counseling services, secretarial services, teaching services (educational process, specialized consultancy).

An important component of the internal evaluation is represented by the evaluation of doctoral supervisors by doctoral students, the purpose of which is to quantify the level of satisfaction of doctoral students within IOSUD-UPG, regarding the support and mentoring activities offered to students by their supervisors.

As a result of its implementation within the MINES, OIL AND GAS domain, customer satisfaction evaluation forms were developed for:

- a. Educational and research process evaluation questionnaire (Teaching Staff) [,https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VgBDauQo6D4AyaHQJN8G6P1cAnSV03oTgjWfVCTdOIU/edit?ts=6989c53b](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VgBDauQo6D4AyaHQJN8G6P1cAnSV03oTgjWfVCTdOIU/edit?ts=6989c53b)
- b. Questionnaire to evaluate collaboration and relevance of study programs (Economic Partners), https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1165k_RtrTMLR5e9f-4uTEsTpXeu5ZEWcNLSNmJrK2Jk/edit?ts=6989c60e,
- c. Customer satisfaction assessment questionnaire, dedicated to doctoral students who are given an anonymous questionnaire (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1IfuOh8sbFczlOYqzKMZclAZt0s69HRmZAWG9cRp pLPs/edit?ts=6989c650>) through which they can make recommendations to improve the quality of the academic and administrative services offered.

The results were statistically processed and the following reports were prepared:

- a. Customer satisfaction evaluation questionnaire ([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfacție și Chestionar satisfacție studenți-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers),
- b. Educational and research process evaluation questionnaire (Teaching Frameworks) ([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfacție și Chestionar satisfacție studenți-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers),
- c. Questionnaire to evaluate collaboration and relevance of study programs (Economic Partners)-([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfacție și Chestionar satisfacție studenți-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers).

Also, the Doctoral School and implicitly the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS monitors the scientific and professional activity of doctoral students by preparing Individual Activity Reports. ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#)) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students).

Criterion A.2. Material base and optimization of its use

Standard S.A.2.1. The material base of the IH has immovable and movable assets adequate for the development of the university program/field of studies

Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1 The IH has, under the law, spaces dedicated to the appropriate educational, research and administrative processes, as well as for services intended for students, doctoral students and trainees, which ensure a favorable environment for life and study, including for those with disabilities. Optimal spaces are also provided for the development of staff activities. These are adequately equipped.

The field of doctoral studies MINING, OIL AND GAS has an adequate material base for the development of doctoral studies, with special installations and equipment, in accordance with the mission and objectives assumed. PhD students in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS can benefit from the entire research infrastructure of the university, following a program that does not affect other activities in the laboratories in which they wish to carry out studies and research. IOSUD UPG in Ploiești has concluded collaboration agreements for the conduct of studies and research activities with IOSUD Aurel-Vlaicu University of Arad, IOSUD Valahia University of Târgoviște, IOSUD National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest, IOSUD University of Petroșani, Timken Romania S.A. Ploiești, etc. Within the Faculty of Petroleum and Gas Engineering of UPG in Ploiești, where all doctoral supervisors in the field come from, PhD students benefit from 32 laboratories in which they can carry out research activities.

We also have a space in room B1.2 for work, research and presentation of teaching activities for doctoral students and presentation of reports, doctoral theses and exams. In Annex 37. Details of Spaces and [Anexa. Dotare infrastructura cercetare-spatii-acorduri-contracte](#) (Annex. Research infrastructure equipment-spaces-agreements-contracts) the facilities of the 32 laboratories are found, as well as the surface of the rooms in which they are located.

The equipment, simulators, specific equipment for determinations in the doctoral field of Mines, Oil and Gas, come from renowned global suppliers.

There are also stands and devices, made by the doctoral supervisors and doctoral students, all covering a wide range of experimental determinations that can be performed. All these laboratories are located at Blvd. București no. 39, that is, at the university headquarters. Access to the laboratories is facilitated by elevators, for the laboratories located on the first floor, by automated systems for lifting wheelchairs of people with disabilities on stairs or access ramps. The laboratories and their facilities are the property of the University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești.

Standard S.A.2.2. Management of the material base The organizational components optimally and sustainably manage the real estate and movable assets they use for the evaluated university study program/field.

Indicator I.P.A.2.2.1 Real estate and movable assets are adequately maintained, so as to ensure optimal conditions for study, research and living, as well as work.

The basic research infrastructure in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS is presented on the platform <https://eertis.eu/> and [Anexa. Dotare infrastructura cercetare-spatii-acorduri-contracte](#) (Annex. Research infrastructure equipment-spaces-agreements-contracts).

The research infrastructure is managed by technicians who also ensure the maintenance of the equipment. Some of the equipment is serviced by engineers or university teachers. When performing or assisting in experimental determinations, doctoral students are trained by the head of the laboratory on safety and occupational safety regulations. Doctoral students enrolled on a doctoral grant have the opportunity to purchase materials or equipment worth 5,000 lei annually during the internship years, and those enrolled on fee-paying places can purchase materials or equipment worth 2,500 lei, according to the annual decision of the CSUD ([Anexa. Situatia doctoranzi stagiu ptr ACHIZITII 2025_2026 cu sume](#)) (Annex. Situation of doctoral students internship for ACQUISITIONS 2025_2026 with amounts).

Criterion A.3. Adequate human resources and transparent personnel recruitment procedures, developed in accordance with the law

Standard S.A.3.1. Human resources The IH has the human resources necessary for the organization and implementation of the evaluated university program/field of studies.

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.1 The human resources of the organizational component are adequate for carrying out the activities related to the evaluated university program/field of studies. The teaching staff has the necessary qualifications and professional skills to teach the subjects assigned to them in the staff list.

Within the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS there are 9 doctoral supervisors:

În ordine alfabetică conducătorii de doctorat sunt:

1. Prof. habil dr. eng. Mihai Adrian ALBULESCU malbulescu@upg-ploiesti.ro
2. Prof. dr. eng. Lazăr AVRAM lavram@upg-ploiesti.ro
3. Prof.habil.dr.eng. Gheorghe Adrian BRĂNOIU gbranoiu@yahoo.com
4. Prof. habil.dr.eng. Timur-Vasile CHIȘ timur.chis@gmail.com
5. Prof.habil.dr.eng. Cristian Nicolae EPARU cristian.eparu@gmail.com
6. Prof. dr. eng. Iulian NISTOR nistor@upg-ploiesti.ro
7. Prof. habil.dr.eng. Cașen PANAITESCU cpanaitescu@upg-ploiesti.ro
8. Prof. habil dr. eng. Maria STOICESCU stoicescu.maria@yahoo.com
9. Prof. habil dr. eng. Silvian SUDITU ssuditu@upg-ploiesti.ro

At the internet address <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze> PhD students in internship, PhD supervisors as well as their scientific activity and CVs are listed.

During the last 5 academic years, in addition to those mentioned above, the following PhD supervisors have also worked within IOSUD-UPG Ploiesti in the field of MINES, OIL and GAS: prof.habil. dr.ing. Forinel DINU, prof.univ.dr.ing. Pascu COLOJA.

The list of PhD students and the year of enrollment is given in the ANNEX PhD students situation September 2025.

It should be noted that at the date of drafting the report we have the following situation of the completion of doctoral studies:

Prof.univ.habil.dr.ing. Timur-Vasile CHIȘ

1. LUNGU C IONUT ANDREI – in the process of finalization (public consultation),
2. AL GBURI HASAN ALI MOSLEH – in the process of evaluation CNATDCU, defended on 20.03.2026,
3. IANCU DANIEL ION– in the process of evaluation CNATDCU, defended on 13.03.2026
4. DZAIY SULAIMAN KHASRO HAMZA – in the process of public defense, defends on 25.03.2026
5. DOUKEH A RAMI – in the process of CNADCU evaluation, defended on 6.03.2026.

Prof.univ.dr.ing. Lazar AVRAM

1. BANICA MARIUS CRISTIAN – in the process of evaluation CNATDCU, defended on 20.03.2026,,

2. AIDONI V. ARTEMIS – in the process of evaluation CNATDCU – defended the thesis 04.09.2025.

Prof.univ.habil.dr.ing. Mihai Adrian ALBULESCU

1. BOGDAN NV FLORIN– in the process of completion (public consultation),

2. GAL I.L. SORIN CĂLIN – in the process of evaluation CNATDCU / defended the thesis on 22 Oct 2025.

Prof.univ.habil.dr.ing. Maria STOICESCU

1. CÎRJAN DAN OVIDIU – in the process of evaluation CNATDCU / defended the thesis 26.02.2026,

3. PURGHEL C F IOANA ANDREEA– in the process of public defense.

So in this case there is only 1 doctoral supervisor who has more than 8 doctoral students in internship (Prof. univ. dr. ing. Lazar AVRAM).

All doctoral supervisors in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas meet the CNADTCU conditions for habilitation or for leading doctoral programs, on the date of obtaining the attribute to lead doctoral programs.

Of the doctoral supervisors in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas, 7 doctoral supervisors have habilitation certificates (Prof. univ. dr. ing. Iulian NISTOR, Mr. Prof. univ. dr. ing. Lazar AVRAM being appointed, to coordinate doctoral students and lead doctoral programs, by order of the minister).

Among the doctoral supervisors, 5 are tenured and 4 are affiliated (Ms. Prof. univ. habil. dr. ing. Maria STOICESCU, Mr. Prof. univ. dr. ing. Iulian NISTOR, Mr. Prof. univ. dr. ing. Lazăr AVRAM and Mr. Prof. univ. habil. dr. ing. Mihai ALBULESCU are retired from the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti).

The mentioned doctoral supervisors have had international visibility in the last five years, consisting of:

- membership in the scientific committees of international publications and conferences ([Anexa. Vizibilitate internationala](#)) (Annex. International visibility);

- membership in the boards of international and national professional associations; guest status at conferences or expert groups held abroad and nationally ([Anexa. Vizibilitate internationala](#)) (Annex. International visibility) ;

On the doctoral school website <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze> CVs and lists of papers of doctoral supervisors in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS can be found, and at the address https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/2026/Lista_doctoranzi_MinePetrol_Gaze.pdf , the doctoral students, their year of enrollment and their supervisors are presented.

In the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS, the doctoral supervisors have the following numerical number of students in coordination (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students) ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#)):

Table 1. Number of students under coordination

Doctoral supervisor	Doctoral students
Prof. habil.dr.eng. CHIȘ Timur-Vasile	12
Prof. dr. eng. AVRAM Lazăr	11
Prof. habil.dr. eng. ALBULESCU Mihai Adrian	9
Prof.habil.dr. eng. STOICESCU Maria	10
Prof. habil.dr. eng. PANAITESCU Cașen	3
Prof. habil.dr. eng. BRĂNOIU Gheorghe Adrian	6
Prof. dr.eng. NISTOR Iulian	2
Prof. habil.dr. eng. EPARU Cristian Nicolae	3
Prof. habil.dr. eng. SUDITU Costel Silvian	-

By decision of the University Senate, the maximum number of doctoral students coordinated by a doctoral supervisor in the 2025-2026 academic year is 12 doctoral students. (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/S39_H15-Hotarare-Senat-30-octombrie-2025.pdf).

It is noted that no doctoral supervisor in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS exceeds 12 students.

Each doctoral student benefits from a guidance and academic integrity committee consisting of the doctoral supervisor and 3 members, teaching staff or researchers, of which 1 member is from outside the UPG in Ploiești.

The guidance and academic integrity committees are attached.

It is noted that the members of these committees are teaching staff with a doctorate and experience in doctoral research.

From the Discipline Sheets (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze#>) It is noted that all disciplines within the training program based on advanced university studies related to the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS are supported by teaching staff with the title of professor who have the quality of doctoral supervisor, or by associate professors and project leaders with extensive experience in the field of the disciplines taught. All disciplines have as coordinating teaching staff at least associate professors or professors who can lead doctoral programs.

Since all tenured doctoral supervisors within the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS hold the habilitation certificate in the field, it is obvious that they meet the legal conditions to lead a doctorate.

We mention that at the date of drafting the report we have two people who are in the process of submitting the habilitation file (Lecturer Dr. Rami Doukeh and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Iuliana Ghețiu).

Of the doctoral supervisors, 5 are tenured, and 4 are retired.

Since Law 199/2023 and OM 3200 do not refer to tenured or affiliated doctoral supervisors, but only use the term doctoral supervisors, this criterion is above the requirements stipulated by the laws in force. So 55.55% of doctoral supervisors in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS are tenured.

It can be observed, from the date of obtaining the habilitation certificate, that 4 of the 9 doctoral supervisors have obtained the habilitation certificate in the last 5 years, so it is obvious that they are scientifically active.

In the work lists (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze>) it is observed that all doctoral supervisors have more than 45 WOS indexed papers in the last 5 years (Annex. International visibility) ([Anexa. Vizibilitate internationala](#)).

In addition to published articles/books, relevant achievements in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS include contracts with various industry operators.

Table 2 presents the number of citations and Hirsch indices for doctoral supervisors in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS.

Table 2. Number of article and citations in databases of doctoral supervisors in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas

<i>PhD Supervisor Mining, Oil and Gas</i>	<i>Numărul de citări în:</i>		
	<i>Web of Science Link Paper number Citation count Hirsch Index</i>	<i>Scopus Link Paper number Citation count Hirsch Index</i>	<i>Google Scholar Link Paper number Citation count Hirsch Index</i>
<i>Prof. habil.dr. eng. ALBULESCU Mihai Adrian</i>	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/18770502 13 24 3	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=24821676500 14 27 3	

Prof. dr. eng. AVRAM Lazăr	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/19440351 22 28 3	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=24824051300 33 45 4	
Prof. habil.dr. eng. Gheorghe BRĂNOIU	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/1051455 37 158 7	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=55964011500 41 174 7	https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=r2sAwsQAAAAJ&hl=ro&oi=ao 112 366 9
Prof. habil. dr. eng. Timur CHIȘ	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/D-1887-2015 38 43 3	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=55963486600 36 47 4	https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=ro&user=qG0fgdgAAAAJ 138 229 6
Prof. habil.dr.eng. Cașen PANAITESCU	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/1976884 51 300 11	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=36617745200 42 383 12	https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=AanIbz0AAAAJ&hl=ro&oi=ao 80 575 14
Prof. habil. dr. eng. Maria STOICESCU	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/4916408 15 16 3	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=55555954500 12 13 2	https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=ro&user=3XRJPCoAAAAJ 34 40 4
Prof. dr. eng. Iulian NISTOR	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/9455621 <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=57200567653 <u>9</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u>	https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=ro&user=T-byNPYAAAAJ <u>82</u> <u>32</u> <u>3</u>
Prof.habil.dr. eng. Cristian Nicolae EPARU	https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/reCORD/32501521 26 84 6	https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=35812090900 29 134 7	https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=IsSjodAAAAAJ&hl=ro&oi=ao 62 295 10

International visibility is also ensured by membership in the boards of national or international journals listed in international databases and in scientific committees of international conferences, doctoral committees, visiting professor are given in the relevant annexes.

The I.P.A.3.1.2 ÎS indicator ensures the professional and personal development of the staff.

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești, through IOSUD UPG and the doctoral field MINE, PETROL ȘI GAZE, encourages the publication of articles in WOS indexed journals in Q1 and Q2, ensuring the payment of fees related to the articles of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students. From the lists of works of doctoral supervisors (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze>), from the [Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students) it is noted that in the last 5 years, doctoral students in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS have published,

- 8 articles indexed in WOS,
- 70 articles published in BDI indexed journals
- 23 articles presented at international conferences and published in conference volumes

- 58 articles and presented at international conferences and published in abstract in conference volumes ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students)).

It is worth mentioning that since 2025, doctoral students have their own conference indexed in Google Scholar and Academia.net entitled EduDoc. ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students)).

The list of articles of doctoral students shows that the ratio between the number of presentations, including poster presentations, exhibitions, made at prestigious international events (held in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies during the evaluated period is over 1.

The participation fee, as well as travel and accommodation expenses at conferences, through the Doctoral School, were paid by the University.

In the last 3 years, 2023, 2024 and 2025, the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești organized the Research Gala ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students)) at which both teaching staff with notable results, as well as the most deserving doctoral students in each accredited doctoral field were awarded.

UPG of Ploiești according to https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R07.06_4.0_REGULAMENTUL-PRIVIND-SUSTINEREA-PUBLICA-A-TEZELOR-DE-ABILITARE.pdf, for university teaching staff, the fee for habilitation is not charged.

Doctoral students enrolled on a doctoral grant have the opportunity to purchase materials or equipment worth 7,000 lei annually during the internship years, and those enrolled on fee-paying places can purchase materials or equipment worth 2,500 lei, according to the annual decision of CSUD ([Anexa. Situatie doctoranzi stagiu ptr ACHIZITII 2025_2026 cu sume](#)) (Annex. Situation of doctoral students internship for ACQUISITIONS 2025_2026 with amounts).

Doctoral students receive research grants as part of the Research Gala competition ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students)).

Standard S.A.3.2. Recruitment procedures Recruitment procedures for teaching staff comply with legal provisions.

Indicator I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures are in accordance with legal provisions, established and carried out in a transparent manner.

In IOSUD UPG Ploiesti there is and applies the Methodology regarding the automatic recognition of the quality of doctoral supervisor obtained in higher education or research and development institutions abroad (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07-01-RECUNOASTEREA-AUTOMATA-A-CALITATII-DE-CONDUCATOR-DE-DOCTORAT-OBTINUTE-IN-INSTITUTII-DE-INVATAMANT-SUPERIOR-SAU-DE-CERCETARE-DEZVOLTARE-DIN-STRAINATATE.pdf>). The organization and conduct of the affiliation process and granting of membership of the Doctoral School within IOSUD-UPG is carried out according to the Regulation on the public defense of habilitation theses and the co-optation of doctoral supervisors at the Petrol - Gaze University of Ploiesti. (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R07.06_4.0_REGULAMENTUL-PRIVIND-SUSTINEREA-PUBLICA-A-TEZELOR-DE-ABILITARE.pdf). On the doctoral school website at [Anunturi sustineri publice teze de abilitare - Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](#) the announcement of the defense of the habilitation thesis is posted, at least 15 days before the defense, as well as [Curriculum vitae](#), [Fișă de verificare îndeplinire standarde minimale](#), [Lista de lucrari](#), [Propunere numire comisie evaluare și susținere teză abilitare](#), [Rezumatul tezei de abilitare](#), [Raportul comisiei de abilitare](#) (Curriculum vitae, Checklist for meeting minimum standards, List of works, Proposal for appointment of the habilitation thesis evaluation and defense committee, Summary of the habilitation thesis, Report of the habilitation committee) (the latter after the defense).

After obtaining the qualification certificate, in art.3 (a) and (b), art.7(1), art.14 (a), (b), (c), (d), art.15 and art.16, the conditions regarding the organization and conduct of the affiliation process

and the granting of membership of the Doctoral School within IOSUD-UPG are specified. The Doctoral School Council appoints a commission that verifies the file of the candidate who wishes to affiliate and in case of its favorable opinion in the CSD meeting, affiliation is proposed, then this is validated in CSUD and approved in the University Senate of UPG Ploiesti.

Doctoral supervisors are subject to internal and external analysis at an interval not exceeding 5 years. In the Regulation regarding the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiesti, in art.50 (1), (2), (3) and (4) (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/prezentare/regulamente/2024/R%2007_05%20Regulame https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf) these requirements regarding the evaluation of doctoral supervisors are provided, and disaffiliation is proposed by the CSD through the Regulation of the Doctoral School of the University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești at art.14(3) and art. 31((1), (2) and (3).

Disaffiliation from the Doctoral School of IOSUD-UPG can be done as follows:

- (1) At the request of the doctoral supervisor.
- (2) Following a notification received from the Ethics Commission of UPG-Ploiești regarding the violation of ethical norms by an affiliated doctoral supervisor.
- (3) Upon finding failure to meet the minimum standards established by CNADTCU on the date of submission of a new self-evaluation report, but not more than 5 years later. (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/01-R-07.08_3.0-Regulemnt_de_organizare_si_functionare_a_Scolii_doctorale.pdf).

Criterion A.4. Digitalization of institutional processes

Standard S.A.4.1. Digital transformation The digital transformation process at the organizational component level aims to simplify administration and increase the quality of services provided to members of its own community and third parties.

Indicator I.P.A.4.1.1 The organizational component uses IT tools within its own procedures in order to improve access and ensure quality services for members of its own community and indirect beneficiaries of education.

In the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti, there is and is being implemented the project DIGITALIZATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES IN THE PETROL-GAZE UNIVERSITY OF PLOIEȘTI, code 330917348, within the NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN (PNRR), Component 15 - Education, Reform 5: Adoption of the legislative framework for the digitalization of education, Investment 16: Digitalization of universities and their preparation for the digital professions of the future.

In the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti, there is an information system for the record of doctoral students and their academic career. The application aims to manage data related to doctoral students and doctoral supervisors of the Doctoral School of IOSUD UPG Ploiesti. It includes their supervisors, doctoral students, supervision committees, exams, papers and deadlines for their defense. Also, the Didactic Information System (SID) allows the nominal introduction by doctoral supervisors of nominal acquisitions for each doctoral student per year of study. The program interface is interactive and allows the introduction of new data, modification of existing ones, as well as the generation of the main reports, in RTF and Excel formats.

The main forms of the database are:

The screenshot displays a web-based interface for managing doctoral student data. The main area contains several filter buttons for student status: INDRUMATORI, DOCTORANZI IN STAGIU, DOCTORANZI IN PRELUNGIRI, DOCTORANZI IN GRATIE, DOCTORANZI IN INTRERUPERE, Doctoranzi - TOTI, ABSOLVENTI, RETRASI, EXMATRICULATI, POSTDOCTORAT, ABSOLVENTI - Post dr., RETRASI - Post dr., and RAPORTE (Globale). At the bottom, there are buttons for DOMENII/SUBDOMENII, PLANURI DE INVATAMANT, and INCHIDERE - ACCESS. On the right side, a sidebar contains a warning message: 'ATENTIE!! Inceput de an nou - Marirea anului de studiu la toti drd. Urmatoarele comenzi se pot executa numai de un singur utilizator, nu in retea: !! update !! INCHIDERE-WINDOWS'. There are also buttons for 'Preluare din EXCEL' and 'Preluare din CSV', and a label 'EXCEL +CSV + copii de siguranta'.

The software application "ACADEMICS. Centralized Application for Educational Data Administration, Integrated Management and Scientific Research" is currently being implemented. At the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti, there is a software system for detecting plagiarism - SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO. The procedure for organizing and conducting the public hearing for the defense of the doctoral thesis provides, as part of the preliminary operations for submitting the thesis to the doctoral secretariat, that the doctoral student submits the doctoral thesis in digital format together with the request for initiating the procedures for analyzing similarities and evaluating the thesis by the guidance committee. The doctoral secretariat transmits the doctoral thesis in its final electronic form for performing the similarity analysis using the sistemantiplagiat.ro software application. The similarity report is submitted to the doctoral supervisor within a maximum of 30 days, and he/she draws up the resolution regarding the similarity report. Doctoral students can request this verification 2 times during their doctoral internship and for a modest fee of 25 lei as many times as they wish. All doctoral theses starting with April 2016 are subject to anti-plagiarism verification. These reports are uploaded to the REI platform of the Ministry of Education and Research for all defended doctoral theses. Starting with the academic year 2022-2023, doctoral students' research reports are also subject to similarity checks. At the Doctoral School secretariat, in the doctoral students' files, as well as in electronic format, the reduced and extended similarity reports for all doctoral theses starting with April 2016, and starting with 2022, the reduced reports related to research reports are also available.

DOMAIN B. Educational effectiveness

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programs

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of the study program/programs. The study program is based on a curriculum that aims to achieve the expected learning outcomes by students

Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1 The university study program is developed and structured in relation to the expected learning outcomes and is organized on the basis of transferable study credits. It encompasses the totality of learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences that together lead to a university qualification.

The training program based on advanced university studies, completed within the Doctoral School of IOSUD UPG, aims to enrich the theoretical and applied knowledge of the doctoral student and is focused on ensuring the premises for the good development of the individual scientific research program and for the acquisition of advanced skills specific to the doctoral study cycle. Within the training program based on advanced university studies (PPA), the doctoral student must pass the exam in 3 subjects, one from each category of the curriculum (mandatory subjects - Ethics and academic integrity, advanced knowledge subjects - profile disciplines in accordance with the doctoral student's topic and complementary subjects - related to research methodology or related to it). Each subject followed by the doctoral student is credited with a number of credits. The doctoral student must accumulate 30 credits from this activity. The curriculum for the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS can be found at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze> , where the subject sheets are also found.

a) There is at least one subject dedicated to ethics in scientific research and intellectual property or well-defined themes on these subjects within a subject taught in the doctoral program.

The doctoral school and the doctoral supervisor are obliged to inform the doctoral student about scientific, professional and academic ethics and to monitor and verify their compliance, by observing the deontological provisions during the doctoral research and observing the deontological provisions in the writing and finalization of the doctoral thesis. IOSUD and the Doctoral School for each doctoral field have in the curricula the obligation to promote the mandatory exam in Ethics and Academic Integrity. The training offer for transversal skills, including aspects related to research ethics, scientometrics and academic writing, is correlated with strategies and procedures for quality assurance focused on preventing academic fraud and resolving situations of violation of academic ethics. We can mention 2 methodologies <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/R-01-01-CODUL-DE-ETICA-SI-DEONTOLOGIE->

[UNIVERSITARA.pdf](#) și <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/STRATEGIA-DE-PREVENIRE-SI-COMBATERE-A-FENOMENULUI-DE-PLAGIAT-in-UPG-1.pdf> . In addition to the mandatory discipline Ethics and Academic Integrity (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze>) not only the doctoral thesis is subject to similarity checks (at least 2 checks that are raised in the REI platform), but also the research reports are subject to these checks, thus the doctoral students must acquire the skills, abilities, responsibility and autonomy acquired by promoting the discipline.

b) Mechanisms are created to ensure that the training program based on advanced university studies, related to the evaluated field, aims at "learning outcomes", specifying the skills, abilities, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through research activities.

At the level of the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești and IOSUD-UPG there is an internal mechanism through which study programs, including doctoral ones, are initiated, approved, monitored and evaluated. Quality Assurance Code of the Petrol - Gaze University of Ploiești (<https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/06-R-01-04-CODUL-DE-ASIGURARE-A-CALITATII-AL-UPG.docx-1.pdf>). Also in the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the Oil and Gas University of Ploiești, (<https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/R-01-02-REGULAMENT-DE-ORGANIZARE-SI-FUNCTIONARE-A-UNIVERSITATII-PETROL-GAZE-DIN-PLIESTI-02.12.2024-1.pdf>, in art.20, (2) it is specified that the main attributions of the CSUD are the following: a) establishes the IOSUD-UPG strategy; b) develops the institutional regulation for the organization and development of doctoral university study programs at the IOSUD-UPG level; c) develops other proposals for regulations or measures regarding doctoral university studies at the UPG; d) approves the decisions regarding the establishment and dissolution of doctoral schools within the IOSUD-UPG, at the proposal of the Rector and with the approval of the UPG Senate; e) approves the composition of a newly established doctoral school; f) approves the curriculum for the advanced university training program (PPA) regarding the disciplines at the IOSUD-UPG level; g) approves the positions at the IOSUD-UPG level; h) approves the committees for the public defense of doctoral theses; i) approves the regulations of the doctoral schools; j) mediates conflicts between the doctoral student and the doctoral school; k) other specific duties, established by the institutional regulation for the organization and conduct of doctoral university study programs, according to the law.

The Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești specifies in art.10 that: (1) Doctoral study programs are organized and conducted in IOSUD UPG only within the doctoral schools (SD). (2) A doctoral school is organized and operates within IOSUD-UPG with at least three doctoral supervisors in the same doctoral field. (3) At most one third of the doctoral supervisors of a doctoral school may come from other university or research institutions in the country or abroad. (4) The establishment of a doctoral school is proposed by the Rector of UPG, is endorsed by the UPG Senate and is approved by CSUD. Art.11 specifies the duties of the doctoral school council: a) drafting the doctoral school regulations; b) making decisions regarding the granting or revoking of the membership of the doctoral school to doctoral supervisors, as well as establishing minimum standards of scientific performance in order to objectively apply these procedures; c) enrolling and expelling doctoral students, upon the proposal of doctoral supervisors who are members of the doctoral school; d) approving the committees for the public defense of doctoral theses; e) approving curricula, by fields; f) assisting external evaluators for accreditation/reaccreditation or provisional authorization of the doctoral school; g) other specific duties, and art.12 (1) The Regulations of the doctoral school establish the manner in which the doctoral university study programs are organized and carried out within it.

(2) The Doctoral School Regulations are developed, amended and updated by the CSD, in consultation with all doctoral supervisors who are members of the respective doctoral school. (3) The Doctoral School Regulations establish mandatory criteria, procedures and standards covering at least the following aspects: a) regulations regarding the acceptance of new doctoral supervisors, as well as regulations regarding the manner in which a doctoral supervisor may be withdrawn from membership

of the doctoral school; b) the structure and content of the training program based on advanced university studies (PPA); c) the procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a particular doctoral student and the procedures for mediating conflicts; d) the conditions for expulsion; e) the conditions under which the doctoral program may be interrupted; f) the methods for preventing and sanctioning fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism, in accordance with the provisions of the Code of University Ethics and Deontology; g) regulations regarding ensuring access to research resources; h) regulations regarding the attendance obligations of doctoral students; i) indicators for monitoring and internal evaluation of doctoral university study programs; j) indicators for evaluating the activity and progress of doctoral students.

The PPA and PCS are annexes to the doctoral student's contract. Within the framework of the training program based on advanced university studies (PPA), the doctoral student must pass the exam in 3 subjects, one from each category of the curriculum. Each subject followed by the doctoral student is credited with a number of credits. The doctoral student must accumulate 30 credits from this activity. The scientific research program includes 3 research reports, each of which is in line with the doctoral student's doctoral topic, these reports giving him the skills related to the completion of the doctoral thesis. 30 ECTS are awarded for each research report.

Additionally, in the doctoral field of MINING, OIL AND GAS, doctoral students must also publish at least 3 research articles in the field of the thesis, 1 in a WOS indexed journal, 2 in BDI indexed journals (after 2025) and 1 article published in BDI indexed journals and 2 articles presented at international conferences and published in conference volumes indexed in databases.

The Academic Guidance and Integrity Committee, throughout the doctoral studies of the doctoral student, evaluates his/her progress. Each doctoral student prepares an annual activity report ([Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#)) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students), reports that also show progress and learning outcomes.

The Doctoral School's self-evaluation reports for 2016, 2019 and 2021 are approved by the University Senate and available at: <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/ro/metodologii-regulamente-si-legislatie>, and the Doctoral School's Annual Reports can be accessed at [Metodologii, regulamente și legislație – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#) (annual reports 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024) The Quality Management Service (SMQ) of UPG, through accredited auditors, also audits the Doctoral School annually, and the annual reports can be found at <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/index.php/ro/raport-anual-de-activitate>. In the AEROQ 2020 and 2025 audit, IOSUD-UPG and the Doctoral School were also audited, as can be seen from [Anexa. Audit AEROQ 2020 si 2025 si plan audit CSUD-SD 2026](#)) (Annex. AEROQ audit 2020 and 2025 and CSUD-SD audit plan 2026).

c) Throughout the entire duration of the doctoral training period, doctoral students in the field benefit from the advice/guidance of functional guidance committees, reflected through guidance and written feedback or regular meetings.

The guidance committees are organized according to the regulations of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești, which complies with the provisions of OM 3020 of 2024: Art.29 (3) The PCS is carried out on the basis of an individual training plan developed by the doctoral supervisor within 30 days of the doctoral student's enrollment. The doctoral student's scientific research activity is carried out under the guidance of the doctoral supervisor, supported by the guidance and academic integrity committee. This committee is made up of 3 other members, who may be part of the doctoral supervisor's research team, other persons affiliated with the doctoral school, or teaching staff, and at least one member is from outside IOSUD UPG. The composition of the guidance committee is established by the doctoral supervisor, following consultation with the doctoral student. The guidance committee is established within 30 calendar days of the doctoral student's enrollment. The Guidance and Academic Integrity Committee ensures, in a coherent and continuous manner throughout the entire period of advanced university studies that each doctoral student carries out, the guidance activity of preparing doctoral students for the public defense of doctoral theses. During the first academic year, the doctoral supervisor and the Guidance and Academic Integrity Committee permanently provide information

and suggestions to each doctoral student regarding scientific documentation and scientific research methodologies appropriate for the preparation of the future doctoral thesis.

In the second and third year, the scientific papers, as well as the defense of the doctoral thesis, will be coordinated directly by the doctoral coordinator, supported by the academic guidance and integrity committee. The active involvement of the members of the academic guidance and integrity committees in coordinating the activity of doctoral students is also proven by publications and/or joint scientific communications of the doctoral student with at least one of the members of the academic guidance and integrity committee.

In the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS, the committees are appointed at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor with the approval of the CSD, by the Rector of the Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești.

The academic guidance and integrity committees are part of the committees for the defense of Research Reports and the defense of the thesis in the department. ([Anexa. Cerere și PV examen-raport cercetare](#)) (Annex. Application and PV exam-research report).

The dissertations of doctoral students in the Mining, Oil and Gas Domain are reposted (posted) in a public online portal, together with the anti-plagiarism checks and the evaluation reports prepared by the coordination committees according to Order No. 3018/2025 of January 13, 2025 on the approval of the minimum national standards necessary and mandatory for the award of the doctoral degree ISSUER: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH PUBLISHED IN: OFFICIAL GAZETTE NO. 78 of January 29, 2025, for committee 12, Committee on Geological Engineering, Geodetic Engineering, Mining, Oil and Gas. minimum standards for the award of the doctoral degree) (https://www.edu.ro/sites/default/files/fisiere%20articole/OMEC_3018-2025.pdf).

Coordination committees ([Anexa. Referat recenzie doctoranzi MPG și Comisii de coordonare](#)) (Annex. Review report for MPG doctoral students and Coordination Committees) and the report prepared for the evaluation of doctoral research papers ([Anexa. Referat recenzie doctoranzi MPG și Comisii de coordonare](#)) (Annex. Review report for MPG doctoral students and Coordination Committees) are attached.

Criterion B.2. Concordance between curriculum and qualification

Standard S.B.2.1. Concordance with the level of qualification and the targeted competencies In the process of curriculum design and development, the organizational component aims to ensure the level of qualification and correlation with the targeted occupations

Indicator I.P.B.2.1.2 The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competencies required by the corresponding occupations, according to occupational standards and/or the European Classification of Occupations (ESCO).

Subject sheets from the curriculum of the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze>) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission>) consider fulfilling the conditions regarding the learning outcomes contained in the ARACIS standards <https://www.aracis.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Standarde-specifice-studii-universitare-de-doctorat.pdf>, in the case of doctoral university study programs, the learning outcomes are consistent with level 8 of the CNC, as follows: Knowledge at the most advanced level in a field of work or study and knowledge at the border between different fields; skills ensure the most advanced and specialized skills and techniques, including the ability to synthesize and evaluate, necessary to solve critical research and/or innovation problems and to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practices; and for responsibility and autonomy, it ensures the demonstration of a high level of authority, innovation, autonomy, scientific and professional integrity and a sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of a work or study situation, including research. The PPA is completed with the PCS, but also with the articles produced and published by the doctoral student so that he can complete his doctoral thesis. Due to the specificity and tradition of the University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești, some disciplines in the category of advanced knowledge disciplines - profile disciplines in accordance with the doctoral student's topic, are focused on equipment and technologies related to the oil and gas industry and the transition to zero-emission renewable energy.

Criterion B.3. Student-centered learning, teaching and assessment

Standard S.B.3.1 Principles The organizational component implements the principles of student-centered learning.

Indicator I.P.B.3.1.1 The organizational component ensures the implementation of the principles of student-centered learning within the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in learning and teaching activities and experiences.

The subject sheets are visible on the doctoral school website, being adapted in accordance with Bloom's taxonomy (doctoral students obtaining knowledge, acquiring skills and having responsibilities and autonomy). By the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petroleum - Gas University of Ploiești (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf) and the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the doctoral school within IOSUD – Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/01-R-07.08_3.0-Regulemnt-de-organizare-si-functionare-a-Scolii-doctorale.pdf)

The doctorate is mainly focused on the doctoral student. Each doctoral student has a doctoral supervisor, a personal advisory and academic integrity committee, whose members are researchers with studies and research in the field of the doctoral student's thesis. Each doctoral student has his or her own study and research plan, established by the PPA and PCS, which are also annexes to the doctoral student's contract. The dates for taking the exams and research reports are set by the doctoral student, with the agreement of the supervisor and the examination or report defense committee, by completing an application by the doctoral student. ([Anexa. Cerere și PV examen-raport cercetare](#)) (Annex. Application and PV exam-research report). Each doctoral student, at exams, research reports, annual activity reports, thesis defense, receives personalized recommendations from the academic guidance and integrity committee, but also from other members of the Geological Engineering and Reservoir and Drilling, Extraction, Transport and Storage Hydrocarbons departments present at the defenses. (([Anexa. Cerere și PV examen-raport cercetare](#)) (Annex. Application and PV exam-research report).

Indicator I.P.B.3.1.2 The organizational component provides students with opportunities to participate in academic mobility programs, carried out with physical and/or virtual presence.

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti has concluded partnership agreements within the Erasmus+ Project

In the MINES, OIL AND GAS field there are 29 agreements ([Anexa. Vizibilitate internationala](#)) (Annex. International visibility).

Within the Norwegian grants there are agreements with the University of Stavanger, Norway, Norce Institute, Norway and Reykiavik University-Iceland.

The doctoral field has been present in Erasmus+ exchanges and has (due to the international nature of the doctoral students) presence in international conferences and symposia.

It can be noted that in the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS, doctoral students in the last 5 years have participated as authors or co-authors with articles at international conferences.

From [Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students).

It is noted that in the last 5 years, doctoral students in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS have published,

- 8 articles indexed in WOS,
- 70 articles published in BDI indexed journals
- 23 articles presented at international conferences and published in conference volumes
- 58 articles and presented at international conferences and published in abstract in conference volumes.

Doctoral students in the field of doctoral studies MINING, OIL AND GAS participated in lectures given by top experts.

Table 3. Number of PhD students involved in partnership agreements in the last 5 years

Conferences	Years	Number of PhD students/PhD supervisors	Paper numbers
6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FRONTIERS IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH ICFAR 2025 December 16-17, 2025, KONYA, TURKEY,	2025	1/2	2
International Scientific Research, Congress	2025	10/3	5
5th International Conference on Scientific and Innovative Studies July 15-16, 2025: Konya, Turkey,	2025	4/1	2
ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PIONEER AND ACADEMIC RESEARCH ICPAR 2025, 13-14 June 2025 , Konya, Turkey	2025	8/1	4
th INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CONGRESS, June 21-22, 2025 Istanbul	2025	6/2	4
3rd European GREEN Conference - EGC 2025, 10-13 June 2025	2025	2/1	2
International Chemical and Material Symposium, SICHEM 2025, 6-7 November, 2025,	2025	10/3	6
CHIMIA 2024, 30th of May – 1st of June 2024, Constanta, Romania	2024	9/1	6
SICHEM 2024, Bucharest, 11-12.04.2024	2024	11/2	8
6th International E-Conference on Advances in Engineering, Technology And Management 2021	2021	2/2	2
6th International E-Conference on Advances in Engineering, Technology And Management 2021	2021	1/1	1
SGEM 2021, Varna, Bulgaria, 14 august-21 august, 2021	2021	2/1	2
EOLINKS International Conference 2021	2021	1/1	1

The program supported by OMV PETROM is mentioned.

The doctoral supervisors in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS are co-opted as doctoral thesis coordinators under the co-supervision of the National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest (3 students) and Duy Tan University Institute of Fundamental and Applied Sciences (1 student) ([Anexa. Vizibilitate internationala](#)) (Annex. International visibility).

Doctoral students benefit from the opportunity to carry out documentation internships, access to the infrastructure of equipment in partner companies, access to some semi-finished products, tools, etc.

In Annex 49. [Anexa. Dotare infrastructura cercetare-spatii-acorduri-contracte](#) (Annex. Research infrastructure equipment-spaces-agreements-contracts) an example of a partnership contract is presented and list of partner companies, with which the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti, Faculty of Petroleum and Gas Engineering, doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS has partnership agreements for students is presented.

As can be seen, our students were present virtually and physically at

Table 3 presents the doctoral students in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS involved in partnership conferences agreements.

Of the 30 doctoral students who completed their theses in recent years (2020-2026), all doctoral students were involved in partnership agreements and scientific research (100%).

Two doctoral students have been included in Erasmus agreements in the last 2 years.

Standard S.B.3.2. Equity The organizational component ensures equitable opportunities for students
Indicator I.P.B.3.2.1 The organizational component ensures equitable opportunities for students, in accordance with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești supports the principles of the Lima Declaration (1988) on Academic Freedom and the Autonomy of Higher Education Institutions according to which:

- a) Everyone has the right to education.
- b) Education must aim at the development of the human personality and dignity, support respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and contribute to the maintenance of peace.
- c) All states must guarantee the right to education without any discrimination on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, social or national origin, economic or other status.

The Oil and Gas University of Ploiești adheres to the principles formulated in the Magna Charta Universitatum (Bologna 1988) <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/CARTA-UPG-Ploiesti-2025.pdf> according to which:

- a) The University is an autonomous institution that produces, evaluates and transmits culture through research and education, which must be morally and intellectually independent of any political authority and economic power;
- b) In order to meet the demands of society and lead to scientific progress, education and research must be inextricably linked;
- c) Freedom in research and education is the fundamental principle of academic life;
- d) Depository of the European humanistic tradition, the university is the space in which cultural differences are valued and valorized and intercultural dialogue is supported.

As can be seen from the offer of places for doctoral students put out to competition (https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Admitere/2025/OFERTA_EDUCATIONALA_DOCTORAT_2025.pdf) in each academic year there were also separate places for Romanians from all over the world, as well as for Roma. For foreign doctoral students, they have the opportunity to study and defend their thesis in English.

In the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS in the last 5 years, the following have graduated or are doctoral students:

- 10 citizens are foreign doctoral students, of which 1 from the Republic of Moldova, 1 from Yemen, 3 from Iraq, 1 Syria, 5 Azerbaijan, 1 Greece,
- 9 foreign citizens are graduates of doctoral studies in the last 5 years, of which 3 from Iraq, 1 Syria, 1 Turkmenistan, 2 Iraq, 1 Lebanon, 1 Egypt.

It can be noted that out of the 56 doctoral students in internship, 9 are female.

Doctoral student Cirjan Dan Ovidius enrolled in a doctorate at the age of 60 and obtained the title of Doctor of Engineering in 2026 at the age of 64, as proof that the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS does not discriminate based on age.

At the same time, folk music singer-songwriter Daniel Iancu enrolled in a doctorate at the age of 60 and obtained the title of Doctor of Engineering in 2026 at the age of 64, even though he was a graduate of the Faculty of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

Also, doctoral student Muresan Constantin Cristian was admitted to places allocated to citizens of Roma origin.

By the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the University of Petrol – Gaze in Ploiești https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf, The doctorate lasts 4 years with the possibility of extension by 1 or 2 years, and for good reasons, doctoral studies can be interrupted.

Of the 56 doctoral students in the doctoral field of MINING, OIL AND GAS, none are in the period of interruption of studies for medical reasons, and 22 are in periods of extension of studies, without payment of additional fees, with the approval of the CSD, CSUD and the University Senate.

It should be noted that 13 doctoral students have defended their thesis or are in final evaluation at the date of preparation of the report.

Criterion B.4. Accessibility and efficiency of resources and support services appropriate to learning Standard S.B.4.1. Access to resources and services The organizational component ensures access to resources and support services appropriate to the needs of students.

Indicator I.P.B.4.1.1 The organizational component ensures access for students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, to resources and services designed to support the learning process, appropriate in relation to individual learning needs, the field of study, the study cycle and the form of organization of the study program.

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești (UPG) offers a series of facilities and specific rights for students with disabilities or special needs, in accordance with the legislation in force, including special places upon admission and support measures (Code of Rights and Obligations of Students of the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești, <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/R01.21-CODUL-DREPTURILOR-SI-OBLIGATIILOR-STUDENTULUI-DIN-UNIVERSITATEA-PETROL-GAZE-DIN-PLOIESTI.pdf>).

Here are the main aspects regarding the access of students with special needs to UPG:

- Admission Places: Graduates with disabilities benefit from 25 special places annually within the Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești.
- Access Infrastructure: The university has taken measures to increase access, with the campus being equipped with modernized dormitories, and access to the main buildings is adapted, such as the ground floor areas for administrative services (<https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/index.php/camine-studentesti>).
- Educational Support (ID/IFR): Students can access online learning resources through the upg-elearning.ro platform, facilitating distance learning for those who cannot travel constantly. Adequate tutorial support is also provided.
- General Rights: According to the Code of Rights and Obligations of UPG students, students have the right to an inclusive environment.

Within the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS, no students with disabilities presented themselves for admission.

Criterion B.5. Learning outcomes

Standard S.B.5.1. Definition and assessment The definition and assessment of learning outcomes is carried out adequately.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.1 Learning outcomes are described adequately and support the understanding of student and teaching staff expectations regarding the content of the subjects in the curriculum.

Learning outcomes are described according to Bloom's Taxonomy and can be found in the subject sheets. The Operational Procedure regarding the writing of learning outcomes is fully complied with, (<https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/PO-07.53-Scrierea-rezultatelor-invatarii.pdf>).

Also, the doctoral field of MINING, OIL AND GAS has a study field sheet ([Anexa. F040 Fisa programului de studii](#)) (Annex. F040 Study program sheet).

In addition to the disciplines in the PPA, doctoral students must also complete the PCS (preparation of research reports in accordance with the thesis topic and publish at least 3 articles where to disseminate the results of the research undertaken).

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.2 Verification of the achievement of learning outcomes is carried out through mid-term evaluation exams and through final exams.

Doctoral students enrolled in the first year are required to complete the advanced university training program (PPA). Each exam within the PPA is held in front of a committee consisting of the doctoral supervisor, the head of the discipline and another teaching staff in the discipline field.

The individual scientific research plan includes the defense of 3 research reports that are defended in front of the doctoral supervisor and the academic integrity and guidance committee.

The defense is public and the doctoral school informs the departments within the Faculty of Petroleum and Gas Engineering regarding the defense.

Additionally, the Dean of the Faculty of Petroleum and Gas Engineering is also part of the committee for the 1st research report, which also contains the research plan with the activity sheet, because the necessary equipment belongs to the university/faculty-doctoral school, which does not have its own assets.

thesis is defended publicly under the same conditions as research reports, the defense committee also verifying the existence of the publication of the doctoral student's articles, without which he cannot complete this stage.

Annually, doctoral students also prepare activity reports that are approved by the doctoral supervisor and the academic guidance and integrity committee. The doctoral thesis is defended before a doctoral committee consisting of 5 members, of which at least 2 are from outside the Oil and Gas University of Ploiești (Annex 6. Doctoral Theses MPG 2021-2026, Annex 7. Doctoral Theses MPG 2015-2020) and the Operational Procedure for Defending Doctoral Theses is followed. (<https://www.old.upg-ploiesti.ro/sites/default/files/doctordat/R%2007%2042%20aprobat%20Senat%202024.pdf>). All these details are stipulated in the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petroleum - Gas University of Ploiești. (https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Metodologii/2026/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf) and the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the doctoral school within IOSUD – Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiești ([01-R-07.08_3.0-Regulemnt de organizare si functionare a Scolii doctorale.pdf](https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Regulemnt-de-organizare-si-functionare-a-Scolii-doctorale.pdf)).

Criterion B.7. Procedures and practices regarding the admission competition, the course, recognition and equivalence of studies, as well as the certification of results

Standard S.B.7.1. Admission Admission procedures and principles ensure access to higher education.

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.1 The organizational component applies the procedures regarding admission.

Admission to the doctoral program is carried out in accordance with [Metodologia de organizare si desfasurare a concursului de admitere la doctorat 2025](https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Admitere/2025/R_04.08_METODOLOGIE_ADMITERE_DOCTORAT.pdf) what is available at (https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/images/Admitere/2025/R_04.08_METODOLOGIE_ADMITERE_DOCTORAT.pdf) (<https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission>) , methodology that is updated annually (<https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission/admission-for-eu-citizens>, (<https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission/admission-for-non-eu-citizens>).

All information regarding admission to the doctoral program is also posted on the website of the UPG in Ploiești and the Doctoral School ([Admitere - Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](https://doctordat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/admission)) namely:

- Admission Methodology,
- Admission Calendar,
- Academic Year Structure,
- List of Doctoral Supervisors - Admission Places,
- Required Documents,
- Admission Topics,
- Admission Results
- Annual Fees.

According to the Admission Methodology (updated annually), graduates of bachelor's or master's degree studies who have accumulated a minimum of 300 ECTS can register for the admission competition. For each place put up for competition, there is an admission committee proposed by the field coordinator, endorsed by the CSD, approved by the CSUD, after which the rector issues the appointment decision.

The admission competition consists of the analysis of the candidate's file and the presentation by the candidate of an essay based on the proposed topic, following which the committee asks questions, makes recommendations and awards grades to the candidate. All the aforementioned documents, including the admission catalogs, are archived at the doctoral school. After the exam, the admission results are communicated to the candidates and are posted on the doctoral school's website. Indicator I.P.B.7.1.2 Admission to university study programs is carried out in compliance with the principles of equity and equal opportunities, as well as with the establishment of support measures to

ensure access for vulnerable groups, in situations of social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

IOSUD in Ploiești implements the principles of equity and equal opportunities, integrating concrete support measures for the admission of candidates from vulnerable groups, including those with special educational needs (SES) and/or disabilities. As presented in indicators I.P.B.3.2.1 and I.P.B.4.1.1, special places for Roma are put up for competition and as presented with examples, in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS there is no discrimination and facilities are provided to doctoral students.

Doctoral students have the right to accommodation in the university dormitories.

For example, 1 doctoral student benefits from free accommodation, as well as 10 doctoral students benefited from a fee reduction.

In the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS, some doctoral students benefited from a 50% fee exemption such as: Rami Doukeh, Vasiliu Iulia, Lungu Ionuț, and all doctoral students benefited from 7000 lei (budget) or 2500 lei (fee) for purchases, and the payment of travel to conferences and the publication of articles was also borne by the doctoral school.

According to the Institutional Regulations, doctoral students who have not yet publicly defended their doctoral thesis may benefit from forms of support such as interrupting their studies and granting an extension period.

The interruption does not involve the payment of any fee, but during this period the doctoral scholarship is suspended, but does not involve the payment of the tuition fee. The phrase “for good reasons” implies that the approval is granted only on the basis of a reasoned request, endorsed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the Doctoral School Council. Possible examples of “good reasons”: maternity, childcare leave, health problems, carrying out an activity for longer than one month abroad or in another locality, etc.

The extension is granted for a maximum of 2 years (24 months), only to doctoral students who have completed the doctoral program, but have not managed to complete and officially submit the doctoral thesis, and only after fulfilling the obligations in the individual plan (successfully defending all research reports and other activities provided for in the individual plan approved by the Doctoral School Council) and does not involve the payment of the tuition fee.

Usually, the interruption is requested and granted for a period of one year, and the extension for a minimum of 6 months. (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/S38_H14-Hotarare-Senat-25-septembrie-2025-2.pdf, https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/S35_H11-Hotarare-Senat-17-iulie-2025-fin-fin-fin.pdf).

From **Table 4**. Statistics on support for doctoral students in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas 2026, It is noted that 37.95% of the amounts collected (according to the progress report) were allocated for purchases, payment for articles and participation in conferences.

Standard S.B.7.2. Academic path of students The organizational component carries out actions in support of the academic path of students.

Indicator I.P.B.7.2.1 The organizational component applies the regulations regarding the professional activity of students.

The training program based on advanced university studies, completed within the Doctoral School of IOSUD UPG aims to enrich the theoretical and applied knowledge of the doctoral student and is focused on ensuring the premises for the good development of the individual scientific research program and for the acquisition of advanced skills specific to the cycle of doctoral studies. Within the training program based on advanced university studies, the doctoral student must pass the exam in 3 subjects, one from each category of the curriculum (mandatory subjects - Ethics and academic integrity, advanced knowledge subjects - profile disciplines in accordance with the doctoral student's topic and complementary subjects - related to research methodology or related to it). Each subject followed by the doctoral student is credited with a number of credits.

Table 4. Statistics on support for doctoral students in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas 2026

IOSUD UPG Doctoral fields t	Total doctoral students	Total doctoral students in internship (4 years)	Total doctoral students in extension (4 period	Total doctoral students in interruption	Percent in age
MINE, PETROL ȘI GAZE	56	46	10	0	82,14

The doctoral student must accumulate 30 credits from this activity. The curriculum for the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS can be found at <https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/doctorat/domeniul-mine-petrol-si-gaze>. After admission, for each doctoral student in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS, the Individual Plan of the Advanced University Training Program is completed by the doctoral supervisor. The Individual Plan of the Advanced University Training Program PPA is approved by the Director of CSD and submitted to the SD Secretariat, to the file of each doctoral student, is also signed by the doctoral student and a copy is also handed over to the doctoral student. An example of such a plan can be found in ([Anexa. PPA PCS](#)) Annex. PPA PCS.

The exams are established by the doctoral supervisor in accordance with the doctoral topic. The exam programs in the individual advanced training plan emphasize the specifics of each doctoral topic. The exam programs are submitted to the SD Secretariat to the file of each doctoral student and are also sent to the doctoral students. The examination committees are made up of 3 members (the doctoral supervisor as chairman and 2 teaching staff members who are specialists in the examination discipline. An example of the document proving the passing of the exams is presented in Annex 24. PV exam. The solutions to the exam topics are also found in the doctoral student's file. After passing the exams, the doctoral student defends before a committee (the academic guidance and integrity committee) approved by the director of the CSD, the research reports (after 2019 the first report also includes the research project through which the 3 Research Reports are established, their content, the publication plan, the experimental testing plan, the dates for defending the reports, as well as the thesis in the department, as well as the date for the public defense. The activity of each doctoral student is thus monitored through exams, research reports and the annual activity report of the doctoral student. An example of defending a Research Report is in [Anexa. Cerere și PV examen-raport cercetare](#) (Annex. Application and PV exam-research report).

Criteriul B.8. Procesul de internaționalizare

Standard S.B.8.1. Internationalization Increasing the quality of education and research through internationalization actions.

Indicator I.P.B.8.1.1 The organizational component carries out international cooperation actions that support the mobility of members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activity.

In the field of MINES, OIL AND GAS there are 29 agreements ([Anexa. Vizibilitate internaționala](#)) (Annex. International visibility).

Within the framework of Norwegian grants there are agreements with the University of Stavanger, Norway, Norce Institute, Norway and Reykiavik University-Iceland.

The doctoral field was present in Erasmus+ exchanges and has (due to the international nature of doctoral students) presence in international conferences and symposia.

It can be seen that in the doctoral field of MINES, OIL AND GAS doctoral students in the last 5 years have participated as authors or co-authors with articles at international conferences.

From [Anexa. Raportare-Articole-Gala Cercetare doctoranzi](#) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students) it is observed that in the last 5 years, doctoral students in the field of MINING, OIL AND GAS have published,

- 8 articles indexed in WOS,
- 70 articles published in BDI indexed journals
- 23 articles presented at international conferences and published in conference volumes

- 58 articles and presented at international conferences and published in abstract in conference volumes.

PhD students in the field of doctoral studies MINES, OIL AND GAS participated in lectures given by top experts.

The program supported by OMV PETROM is mentioned.

The PhD supervisors in the field of MINES, OIL AND GAS are co-opted as PhD thesis coordinators under the co-supervision of the National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest (3 students) and Duy Tan University Institute of Fundamental and Applied Sciences (1 student).

In the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS in the last 5 years have graduated or are doctoral students:

- 10 citizens are foreign doctoral students, of which 1 from the Republic of Moldova, 1 from Yemen, 3 from Iraq, 1 Syria, 5 Azerbaijan, 1 Greece,

- 9 foreign citizens are graduates of doctoral studies in the last 5 years, of which 3 from Iraq, 1 Syria, 1 Turkmenistan, 2 Iraq, 1 Lebanon, 1 Egypt.

It can be noted that out of the 56 doctoral students in internship, 9 are female.

Doctoral students benefit from the opportunity to carry out documentation internships, access to the infrastructure of equipment in partner companies, access to some semi-finished products, tools, etc.

Members of the doctoral field Mines, Oil and Gas have partnership agreements with universities and economic research contracts with flag companies in the oil and gas industry (21 contracts).

Also, members of the doctoral field of Mining, Oil and Gas submitted projects on the research axis CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE (Centre for advanced studies for the geological storage of CO₂ in Romania – ROGeoStore) and PED ([Anexa. Dotare infrastructura cercetare-spatii-acorduri-contracte](#)) (Annex. Research infrastructure equipment-spaces-agreements-contracts).

For each foreign citizen, graduate of higher education, who wishes to pursue doctoral studies in the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS, we issue letters of recommendation, upon their request and after studying their file, for the submission of the file to the Ministry of Education and Research) (at this moment we have submitted over 15 agreements).

At the level of IOSUD, every year, we request 2 places for doctoral studies for Romanians from all over the world.

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești has partnership agreements within the Erasmus+ program and each doctoral supervisor has been a member of an international collaboration partnership and training and teaching visits).

For example, Chiș Timur Vasile has been present in recent years in 5 Erasmus mobilities, Rami Doukeh, Gheșiu Iuliana, Suditu Iulian in 3 mobilities and Avram Lazar in 2 mobilities.

Criterion B.9. Scientific research results

Standard S.B.9.1 Scientific research in the education process Scientific research activities support the acquisition of learning outcomes by students.

Indicator I.P.B.9.1.1 Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are valued in the acquisition of the learning outcomes targeted by the study program.

In the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS, both the individual PPA and PCS programs are focused on the completion of the doctoral thesis, through which its author proves that he can conduct advanced research with responsibility and autonomy, formulating conclusive proposals.

Standard S.B.9.2. Scientific research related to the objectives of the study program The organizational component carries out scientific research activities in accordance with the objectives of the evaluated study program.

Indicator I.P.B.9.2.1 The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in the respective scientific field and appropriately valued.

The scientific research, development and innovation activity had a strong upward trend. This evolution was supported, mainly, by the participation of doctoral supervisors from the Doctoral

School of UPG Ploiesti in a significant number of research/institutional development/human resources grants, both national and international.

This proves the ability of doctoral supervisors to attract additional financial resources through grants, which leads to an increase in the research activities and/or professional development of doctoral students.

In the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS, the research/grant/training contracts presented in [Anexa. Dotare infrastructura cercetare-spatii-acorduri-contracte](#)) (Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students).

The doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS has benefited in the last 5 academic years from the endowments made and from institutional development grants:

1. CNFIS-FDI-2020-0016. "e-VALUARE" - modern evaluation and analysis solutions for improving the quality of university activities; value: 277542 lei, 2020.

2. CNFIS-FDI-2020-0087. Integrated practice for correlating multidisciplinary activities applied in a production process; project director: value: 237600 lei, 2020.

3. CNFIS-FDI-2020-0034. POLE4R&D - Support for research excellence in STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics); value: 316800 lei, 2020.

4. CNFIS-FDI-2023-F-0483. e-PRACTICĂ for mechanical engineering in order to increase professional skills, budget 176776 RON, 2023

5. CNFIS-FDI-2024-F-0285 – Increasing young people's access to higher education in Prahova (Youth UPG) - 360000 RON, 2024

The University of Petroleum and Gas of Ploiești, through IOSUD UPG and the doctoral field MINE, PETROL AND GAZE, encourages the publication of articles in WOS indexed journals in Q1 and Q2, upon payment of fees related to articles by doctoral supervisors and doctoral students.

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criteria C.1. Strategies and procedures for quality assurance, including in the field of ethics and university deontology, which involve students, employers and other stakeholders and are applied consistently and transparently

Standard S.C.1.1. Implementation Strategic directions, actions and procedures implemented appropriately

Indicator I.P.C.1.1.1 The organizational component carries out actions and applies procedures, consistently, proving their impact in improving the quality of education at the level of the study program.

At the level of the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești and IOSUD-UPG there is an internal mechanism through which study programs, including doctoral ones, are initiated, approved, monitored and evaluated. Quality Assurance Code of the Petrol - Gaze University of Ploiești [06-R-01-04-CODUL-DE-ASIGURARE-A-CALITATII-AL-UPG.docx-1.pdf](#)), as well as the Quality Manual (QUALITY MANUAL – Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești). Also in the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești, [R01-02 \(1\).pdf \(upg-ploiesti.ro\)](#), in art. 20, (2) the main attributions of the CSUD are specified. In the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the Petrol – Gaze University of Ploiești (https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/R-07_05-Regulament-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-stud-univ-drd-la-UPG-Ploiesti.pdf) The attributions are specified in art.10. The annual reports of CEACU can be found at [COMISIA PENTRU EVALUAREA SI ASIGURAREA CALITATII IN UPG DIN PLOIESTI \(CEACU\) – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#).

The doctoral school is audited annually, audit plans can be found at [DEPARTAMENTUL DE MANAGEMENT AL CALITATII \(DMCU\) – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#). From <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/PROGRAM-AUDITURI-INTERNE-2026.pdf> it is noted that the last audit was on February 10, 2026. The Quality Management Service (SMQ) of UPG, through accredited auditors, also audits the Doctoral School annually, and the annual reports can be found at <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/index.php/ro/raport-anual-de-activitate>. In the AEROQ 2020 and 2025 audit, IOSUD-UPG and the Doctoral School were also audited, as can be

seen from [Anexa. Audit AEROQ 2020 si 2025 si plan audit CSUD-SD 2026](#) (Annex. AEROQ audit 2020 and 2025 and CSUD-SD audit plan 2026).

The Doctoral School's annual self-evaluation, progress, and reports are approved by the University Senate/CSUD and are available at: <https://www.upg-ploiesti.ro/index.php/scoala-doctorala-arhiva/metodologii-regulamente-si-legislatie/>

Standard S.C.1.2. Stakeholder Involvement The IH demonstrates that it involves stakeholders with relevant activity in the application of procedures.

Indicator I.P.C.1.2.1 The opinions of members of its own community and other stakeholders are taken into account in the process of implementing procedures.

An important component of the internal evaluation is represented by the evaluation of doctoral supervisors by doctoral students, the purpose of which is to quantify the level of satisfaction of doctoral students within IOSUD-UPG, regarding the support and mentoring activities offered to students by their supervisors.

There is and is implemented a Procedure for evaluating the satisfaction of students and other stakeholders (ANNEX Customer Satisfaction Evaluation Questionnaire) which is also applicable to doctoral students.

As a result of its implementation, doctoral students are given an anonymous questionnaire ([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfacției și Chestionar satisfacție studenți-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers) through which they can make recommendations to improve the quality of the academic and administrative services offered.

The answers provided by doctoral supervisors in 2026 can be found in ([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfacției și Chestionar satisfacție studenți-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01

Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers).

Criterion C.2. Functionality of the structures for ensuring the quality of education, including in the field of university ethics and deontology, according to the law

Standard S.C.2.2. Functioning The organizational structures in the field of quality assurance and that of university ethics and deontology fulfill their specific role and functions, adequately.

Indicator I.P.C.2.2.2. The university ethics committee operates on the basis of the regulation approved by the university Senate and acts independently of any other structure or person within the higher education institution, in compliance with the law.

The ethics committee operates according to the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the university ethics committee of the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești ([REGULAMENTUL DE FUNCȚIONARE](#)), independent and respectful [R-01-01-CODUL-DE-ETICA-SI-DEONTOLOGIE-UNIVERSITARA.pdf](#).

Criterion C.3. Procedures for initiating, monitoring and periodic review of programmes and fields of study and activities carried out, involving students, employers and other stakeholders

Standard S.C.3.1. Procedures and their application The HEI has procedures for initiating, monitoring and periodic review of programmes and fields of study and activities carried out and applies them systematically.

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, proving their impact on quality assurance.

As presented in [Indicatorul I.P.C.1.1.1](#), IOSUD UPG, the Doctoral School and the doctoral field MINING, OIL AND GAS comply with the procedures and regulations in accordance with the latest legislative amendments.

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of the community and other stakeholders are involved in the implementation of procedures.

Doctoral supervisors and doctoral students in the doctoral field of Mine, Oil and Gas respect the regulations and procedures (and verify that the I.P.C.1.1.1 Indicator is respected). There is an order for preparing documents, they are standardized SMQ (Intranet UPG - DOCTORAT - Toate documentele/regarding the doctoral school there are 59 standard files).

Criterion C.4. Procedures for periodic evaluation of the quality of the activities of the teaching, auxiliary teaching and administrative staff

Standard S.C.4.1. Procedures The application of methodologies and procedures contributes to improving the quality of the staff activities.

Indicator I.P.C.4.1.1 The organizational component analyzes the results of the semester evaluation process by students of the performance of teaching staff.

In UPG of Ploiești there is and applies the Methodology for evaluating the results and professional performances of the teaching and research staff of the Petrol - Gaze University of Ploiești ([04-R-04-13-METODOLOGIE-DE-EVALUARE-A-REZULTATELOR-SI-PERFORMANTELOR-PROFESIONALE-ALE-PERSONALULUI-DIDACTIC-SI-DE-CERCETARE-DIN-UNIVERSITATEA-PETROL-GAZE-DIN-PLOIESTI-dupa-CA-1.docx](#)).

- a. Educational and research process evaluation questionnaire (Teaching Frameworks), <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1VgBDauQo6D4AyaHQJN8G6P1cAnSV03oTgjWfVCTdOIU/edit?ts=6989c53b>
- b. Questionnaire to evaluate collaboration and relevance of study programs (Economic Partners), https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1165k_RtrTMLR5e9f-4uTEsTpXeu5ZEWcNLSNmJrK2Jk/edit?ts=6989c60e,
- c. Customer satisfaction assessment questionnaire, dedicated to doctoral students who are given an anonymous questionnaire (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1IfuOh8sbFczlOYqzKMZclAZt0s69HRmZAWG9cRppLPs/edit?ts=6989c650>) through which they can make recommendations to improve the quality of the academic and administrative services offered.

The results were statistically processed and the following reports were prepared ([Anexa. PO 08.01 Evaluarea satisfactiei și Chestionar satisfactiei studenti-cadre didactice-angajatori](#)) (Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers):

- a. Customer satisfaction assessment questionnaire ,
- b. Educational and research process assessment questionnaire,
- c. Evaluation questionnaire for collaboration and relevance of study programs.

Criterion C.5. Systematically updated databases, related to internal quality assurance

Standard S.C.5.1. Databases The HEI uses databases to support internal quality assurance activities.

Online access to scientific resources for research within the university is ensured under the subsidiary contract (Anelis Plus) to the Financing Contract No. 1/Axis 1/18.07.2017 for the implementation of project no. My SMIS 2014+ code: 102839 entitled "National electronic access to scientific literature to support the research and education system in Romania - ANELIS PLUS 2020, within the POC-Axis 1-CDI program, concluded by the Association of Universities, Research and Development Institutes and Central University Libraries in Romania (ANELIS PLUS) with the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiești (ANELIS PLUS contributing member). Based on this contract, access is ensured to the databases: Science Direct, Scopus, SpringerLink Journal, Thomson Reuters - Derwent Innovations Index, Thomson Reuters - Web of Science, Thomson Reuters - Journal Citation Reports, OnePetro, Wiley Online Library and 2000 e-book titles from all fields that can be accessed full-text, in the ANELIS PLUS National Repository at: <https://dspace.anelisplus.ro/xmlui/> .

In the UPG of Ploiești there are several organizational structures specific to quality management ([DEPARTAMENTUL DE MANAGEMENT AL CALITATII \(DMCU\) – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#)): The Commission for Evaluation and Quality Assurance in the UPG of Ploiești (CEACU), the Department of Quality Management (DMCU), the Internal Monitoring Commission (CMI). All the aforementioned structures verify all activities in the university.

The doctoral field of Mines, Oil and Gas was audited, the report being attached (Annex 55. Audit report 2026).

Criterion C.6. Transparency of information of public interest, including those regarding the programs and fields of study offered, as well as regarding the certificates, diplomas and related qualifications

Standard S.C.6.1. Transparency The organizational component ensures the transparency of information, according to the law.

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.1 The organizational component ensures the publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study program.

The doctoral school and the doctoral field of Mines, Oil and Gas present all information of public interest ([Acasă - Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](#)) (<https://doctorat.upg-ploiesti.ro/en/>)

.Indicator I.P.C.6.1.2 The organizational component ensures the transparency of decision-making processes.

Senate decisions can be found at [Hotărâri ale Senatului din anul 2025 – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#), and those of CSUD at [CSUD - Școala doctorală - UPG Ploiești](#) and the address [Metodologii, regulamente și legislație – Universitatea Petrol-Gaze Ploiești](#).

Criterion C.8. Participation in external evaluation processes, according to the law

Standard S.C.8.1. Compliance with the obligation of external evaluation The HEI is subject to the external quality evaluation process, according to the law.

Indicator I.P.C.8.1.1 The organizational component carries out the procedures related to the external quality evaluation process, in order to organize, under the law, the evaluated study program.

The internal evaluation reports of the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS, after elaboration, are approved by the CSD, CSUD, Quality Management, the Board of Administration and approved by the University Senate, then sent to ARACIS according to the law. The doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS following the ARACIS external evaluation from September 20-24, 2021 and the decision of the ARACIS council no. 97/25.11.2021 [Hotararea-Consiliului-ARACIS-nr.-97-din-25.11.2021.pdf](#), (Annex 2. MPG internal evaluation report, Annex 3. Coordinator's report, Annex 4. International evaluation report,) obtained Maintenance of accreditation. IOSUD UPG from Ploiești obtained Maintenance of accreditation following the external institutional evaluation of UPG from Ploiești from 05.03.2025-07.03.2025 [EI2736 UPG Raport-Consiliu 08.05.2025.pdf](#). The external report of the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS is presented in [Anexa. Raport de evaluare interna, coordonator, evaluator international si de progres](#) (Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report). Following the submission of the internal progress report in October 2024, the interim external evaluation report of the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS [Anexa. Raport de evaluare interna, coordonator, evaluator international si de progres](#) (Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report) was prepared in October 2024.

IV. Recommendations and main conclusions resulting from the last external quality assessment procedure, and actions taken

The external reports of the coordinator and the international expert can be found in [Anexa. Raport de evaluare interna, coordonator, evaluator international si de progres](#) (Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report).

1.1. Description of the way in which the standards and performance indicators are met, as well as the recommendations formulated for the indicators assessed as partially met or not met within the periodic evaluation procedure

1.1.1. Analysis of performance indicators

1.1.1.1. Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Criterion A.1. Administrative, managerial institutional structures and financial resources

Standard A.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the efficient operating mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation regarding the organization of doctoral studies

Indicator A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the doctoral school to which the field of doctoral studies belongs.

The doctoral field of Mines, Oil and Gas has all the necessary accreditations and has implemented all the specific regulations applied, necessary for the conduct of the activity.

Recommendations of the evaluators:

Change the composition of the CSUD or CSD, since their structure is approximately the same, 6 members of the two councils being common.

Analysis of the opportunity to include in the CSUD and in the CSD a doctoral supervisor in the field of Educational Sciences, a field not accredited in IOSUD-UPG.

Preparation of the methodology for completing doctoral studies,

Preparation of internal procedures for analyzing and approving proposals regarding the topic of the training program based on advanced university studies.

Recommendations of the foreign expert:

It is recommended that the regulations of the doctoral school be available in English. The criteria for doctoral supervisors should also refer to an adequate Hirsch index, in addition to the activity of publishing in scientific journals and the ability to obtain funding from research projects.

It is recommended to involve young researchers with very good results in the supervisory teams, given that most of them are over 50 years old.

The indicator is met

Young teaching staff (head of thesis and associate professors) with experience in teaching subjects and in research in the field of the coordinated doctoral thesis were introduced into the Supervisory and Academic Integrity Committees.

New members were elected to the CSUD and CSD Councils.

Indicator A.1.1.2. The doctoral school regulations include mandatory criteria, procedures and standards for the aspects specified in art. 17, paragraph (5) of Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, as amended and supplemented.

The doctoral field of Mines, Oil and Gas has implemented all mandatory procedures and standards for the aspects specified in art. 17, paragraph (5) of Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, as amended and supplemented

Recommendations of the evaluators:

All internal regulations regarding doctoral studies should also be available in English.

The indicator is met

Standard A.1.2. IOSUD has the necessary logistical resources to fulfill the mission of doctoral studies.

Indicator A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system for recording doctoral students and their academic career.

There is an appropriate IT system for recording doctoral students and their academic career.

Evaluators' recommendations:

It is recommended that the summaries of doctoral theses be available online (foreign expert).

The indicator is met

Indicator A.1.2.2. The existence and use of a computer program and evidence of its use for checking the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.

Doctoral students during their doctoral studies in the field of MINING, OIL and GAS have 2 times with the agreement of the doctoral supervisor to the software for checking similarity.

The Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti has the software system SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO, for detecting plagiarism, which is an online tool dedicated to verifying all documents with sources located in the University's own database (archived documents), in the databases of other Universities (based on the declaration of mutual exchange of databases), internet resources.

The anti-plagiarism report contains information related to: the title of the work; the author/authors; the type of document (book, guide, doctoral thesis, article, etc.), as well as the values of the similarity coefficients 1 and 2.

Similarity coefficient 1 – expresses the percentage level of borrowings found in certain sources containing a minimum of 5 words. The limit accepted in our institution is a maximum of 50%.

Similarity coefficient 2 – expresses the percentage level of borrowings containing a minimum of 25 words. The limit accepted in our institution is a maximum of 5%. The procedure regarding the organization and conduct of the public session for the defense of the doctoral thesis, provides, as part of the preliminary operations for submitting the thesis to the doctoral secretariat, that the doctoral student submits the doctoral thesis in digital format together with the request regarding the initiation of the procedures for analyzing similarities and evaluating the thesis by the guidance committee.

The doctoral secretariat transmits the doctoral thesis in its final electronic form for performing the similarity analysis using the sistemantiplagiat.ro software application.

The similarity report is submitted to the doctoral supervisor within a maximum of 30 days, and he/she draws up the resolution regarding the similarity report.

Doctoral students may request this verification 2 times during their doctoral internship. All doctoral theses starting with April 2016 are subject to anti-plagiarism verification.

These reports are uploaded to the REI platform of the Ministry of Education and Research for all defended doctoral theses.

All anti-plagiarism reports are at the doctoral school.

Evaluators' recommendations:-

The indicator is met

Standard A.1.3. IOSUD ensures that financial resources are used optimally, and that income from doctoral studies is supplemented by additional funding compared to that provided by the government.

Indicator A.1.3.1. The existence of at least one research or institutional development / human resources grant in implementation at the time of submitting the self-assessment file, per doctoral study field or the existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grants per doctoral study field obtained by doctoral supervisors in the evaluated field in the last 5 years. The grants address topics relevant to the respective field and, as a rule, are carried out with the involvement of doctoral students.

Recommendations:

A greater involvement of both doctoral supervisors and doctoral students in research projects, with internal or external funding, given that most grants are from the period 2015-2016.

The indicator is met

The list of grants obtained has been included in the report. New grant proposals are also submitted for each competition.

Indicator A.1.3.2. The proportion of doctoral students existing at the time of the evaluation, who benefit for a minimum of six months from sources of funding other than government funding, through scholarships granted by individuals or legal entities or are financially supported through research or institutional development grants / human resources, is at least 20%.

Recommendations of the evaluators:

Involvement of the economic environment in granting scholarships or other forms of support for doctoral students who have applied topics;

Involvement of IOSUD- UPG in European-funded projects that support the activity of doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers.

Comment: the foreign evaluator considers that granting a grace period or interruption of doctoral studies is actually a form of financial support. However, the indicator refers to scholarships awarded by individuals or legal entities or through research or institutional development grants / human resources

The indicator is met

Within the doctoral study field of Mining, Oil and Gas, funding was attracted for the award of doctoral scholarships.

Indicator *A.1.3.3. At least 10% of the total amounts of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and through tuition fees collected from doctoral students in fee-based education are used to cover the professional training expenses of doctoral students (participation in conferences, summer schools, courses, internships abroad, publication of specialized articles or other specific forms of dissemination, etc.).

Recommendations:

To develop a procedure, methodology or regulation to establish how doctoral grants are used and the percentage of the grant that a doctoral student receives to cover the professional training expenses of doctoral students (participation in conferences, summer schools, courses, internships abroad, publication of specialized articles or other specific forms of dissemination, etc.);

Analysis of the opportunity to extend the annual budget limit dedicated to the dissemination of scientific research results by doctoral students, especially in the case of acceptance of papers in journals, journals or proceedings of conferences with an impact factor.

Comment: the foreign evaluator considers that the indicator is not met, recommending an increase in the number of doctoral supervisors in the field, as well as an increase in the financing of doctoral studies, at the national level.

The indicator is met

The amounts related to scientific dissemination were settled within the field.

Two new doctoral supervisors were co-opted.

Comment: In the opinion of the foreign expert, this indicator is not met, but the other members of the DSUD MINE, PETROL ȘI GAZE evaluation committee consider that this indicator is partially met, due to the fact that there is an intention to establish the percentage of the grant that a doctoral student receives to settle the expenses of professional training and dissemination of the doctoral students' research results

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

Standard A.2.1. IOSUD/doctoral schools have a research infrastructure that supports the development of activities specific to doctoral studies.

Indicator A.2.1.1. The spaces and material endowment of the doctoral school allow the carrying out of research activities in the evaluated field, in accordance with the mission and objectives assumed (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases, etc.). The research infrastructure and the offer of research services are presented publicly through a profile platform. The research infrastructure described above, acquired and developed in the last 5 years, will be highlighted, distinctly.

Recommendations:

Presentation of the research infrastructure and the offer of research services through the ERRIS platform.

RENAR accreditation of laboratories where research is carried out and where testing and simulations are carried out for the economic environment.

Continuing efforts to equip the material base, including by accessing grants with national or international funding.

The indicator is met

The material base has been completed and the composition of the laboratories has been entered into ERRIS.

Criterion A.3. Quality of human resources

Standard A.3.1. At the level of each doctoral school, there is sufficient qualified personnel so as to ensure a quality educational process

Indicator A.3.1.1. Within the doctoral field, a minimum of three doctoral supervisors carry out their activity and at least 50% of them (but not less than three) meet the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, necessary and mandatory for obtaining the habilitation certificate.

In the Doctoral School - Mining, Oil and Gas, 7 of the 9 doctoral supervisors in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas were qualified according to the latest CNADTCU qualification conditions, so they represent a share of 77%.

Recommendations:

Support all doctoral supervisors in the field to meet the minimum CNADCU standards.

Involve all doctoral supervisors in the field in the activity of publishing research results in impact factor journals, for better international visibility.

The indicator is fully met. All doctoral supervisors meet the CNADCU conditions.

Indicator *A.3.1.2. At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors in the evaluated doctoral field are tenured within IOSUD, employed with an indefinite employment contract.

Of the doctoral supervisors mentioned above, 5 are tenured and 4 are affiliated (Ms. Prof. Stoicescu Maria, Mr. Prof. Avram Lazar, Mr. Prof. Iulian Nistor and Mr. Prof. Albulescu Mihai are retired from the Petrol-Gaze University of Ploiesti).

Recommendations:

Encourage and support other colleagues from UPG for habilitation and affiliation. The percentage of tenured professors is at the limit.

Increase the international visibility of the doctoral supervisors from DSUM.

The indicator is met

Four new doctoral supervisors have been co-opted and two more are to follow.

International visibility is ensured by the multitude of published articles (lists of papers are attached).

Indicator A.3.1.3. The disciplines in the training program based on advanced university studies related to the field are supported by teaching staff or researchers who have the quality of doctoral supervisor / habilitation, professor / CS I or associate professor / CS II with proven expertise in the field of the disciplines taught or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution for the aforementioned teaching and research functions, under the law.

Recommendations:

Reducing the very large number of hours allocated to each subject in the curriculum (210 hours).

Currently, the document presented on the website is a combination of a curriculum and a list of positions. It is recommended to separate the two documents.

Involvement of doctoral supervisors in teaching subjects in the curriculum of the doctoral school.

The indicator is met

The curriculum has been rewritten. It should be noted that all subjects are taught by teaching staff who are specialists in this field and who meet the above-mentioned conditions (associate professor and professor).

Indicator *A.3.1.1. The share of doctoral supervisors who simultaneously coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but not more than 12, during their doctoral studies, does not exceed 20%.

Recommendations:

Distribution of doctoral students so as not to exceed the maximum number of doctoral students that a doctoral supervisor can coordinate.

Supporting doctoral students in internship to complete their doctoral thesis on time (or with minimal overshoot), along with publishing the research results according to CNATDCU criteria;

Limiting the number of doctoral students that a doctoral supervisor accepts for studies (maximum 2 students/year) - recommendation of the foreign expert.

The indicator is met

At the moment, only one professor has more doctoral students in internship than 8.

Standard A.3.2. Doctoral supervisors within the field carry out internationally visible scientific activity.

Indicator A.3.2.1. At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors in the field under evaluation present a minimum of 5 Web of Science or ERIH indexed publications in journals with impact factor or other achievements, with relevant significance for the respective field in which there are international level contributions that reveal progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated field. The mentioned doctoral supervisors have international visibility in the last five years, consisting of: membership in the scientific committees of international publications and conferences; membership in the boards of international professional associations; guest status in conferences or expert groups held abroad or membership in committees for defending doctoral theses at universities abroad or in co-supervision with a university abroad. For the branches of science Arts and Sports Science and Physical Education, doctoral supervisors will prove international visibility in the last five years through membership in the boards of professional associations, through membership in the organizing committees of artistic events and international competitions, respectively through membership in juries or arbitration teams within artistic events or international competitions.

Recommendations:

A greater concern for publishing scientific articles in quoted and indexed journals, which would attract an increase in international visibility, the number of citations and the Hirsch index.

Initiation at the university or faculty level of a system of awards for the best publications, to encourage the dissemination of research results.

The indicator is met

All requirements are resolved

Indicator *A.3.2.2. At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors assigned to a field of doctoral studies continue to be scientifically active, obtaining at least 25% of the score required by the CNATDCU minimum standards in force on the date of the evaluation, necessary and mandatory for obtaining the habilitation certificate, based on scientific results from the last five years.

Recommendations:

Participation of all doctoral supervisors in the field in research activities.

Increasing the number of publications in journals with an impact factor for better international visibility reflected in the Hirsch index.

The indicator is met

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Criterion B.1. Number, quality and diversity of candidates who presented themselves at the admission competition

Standard B.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies has the capacity to attract candidates from outside the higher education institution or in a larger number than the number of places financed from the state budget

Indicator B.1.1.1. The ratio between the number of master's degree graduates from other higher education institutions in the country or abroad who have registered for the admission competition for doctoral studies in the last five years and the number of places financed from the state budget put up for competition in the field of doctoral studies is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates in the last five years and the number of places financed from the state budget put up for competition in the field of doctoral studies is at least 1.2.

Recommendations:

Promote the doctoral field abroad to attract a larger number of doctoral students.

The indicator is met (over 15 doctoral admission agreements were issued this year).

Standard B.1.2. Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research, and professional performance.

Indicator *B.1.2.1. Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria that include: the academic, research and professional performance of the candidates, their interest in scientific or artistic/sports research, publications in the field and a research topic proposal. An interview with the applicant is a mandatory part of the admission procedure.

Recommendations:

Development of a grading scale for each test, respectively establishing a maximum number of points awarded for each item proposed in advance for the admission process.

Indicator is met

There is a grading scale

Indicator B.1.2.2. The expulsion rate of doctoral students, including those who drop out of studies, 3 or 4 years after admission, does not exceed 30%.

Recommendations:

Although the dropout rate is low, it is recommended to increase the number of doctoral students, given that in the last 2 years a decrease in the number of candidates has been registered for admission.

The indicator is met

The doctoral field of Mining, Oil and Gas is the most dynamic field, with a very high number of doctoral students (over 50).

Criterion B.2. Content of doctoral study programs

Standard B.2.1. The training program based on advanced university studies is adequate to improve the research skills of doctoral students and to strengthen ethical behavior in science.

Indicator B.2.1.1. The training program based on advanced university studies includes a minimum of three disciplines relevant for the training of doctoral students in scientific research, of which at least one discipline is intended for the in-depth study of research methodology and / or statistical data processing.

Observations:

The curriculum is presented as a combination of curriculum and schedule of functions.

The number of hours allocated to mandatory, advanced knowledge and complementary subjects is very high (42+210 +168= 420 hours)

There are no subject sheets, only analytical programs.

The competencies obtained by doctoral students after completing a subject in the curriculum are not presented.

Updating the subject sheets in the curriculum, so that they include conditions, prerequisites (of curriculum and competencies), expected learning outcomes (through specific and transversal competencies), the content of the subject and an extensive bibliography.

The foreign expert recommends that the involvement of doctoral supervisors in teaching activities be greater and that the curriculum contain practical activities, that there be dissemination in which doctoral students present their research progress and participate in discussions related to common topics of the doctoral field in which they are preparing.

Indicator B.2.1.2. There is at least one discipline dedicated to ethics in scientific research and intellectual property or well-defined topics on these topics within a discipline taught in the training program.

Recommendations:

To develop the subject sheet, specifying the competencies that doctoral students acquire.

Changing the name of the discipline "Ethics and academic integrity" to "Ethics in scientific research" and adapting its content to the specifics of the fundamental field of Engineering Sciences, respectively to the specifics of each doctoral field. At the same time, it is recommended to avoid overlapping content with the discipline Ethics and Academic Integrity studied within the master's degree cycle.

The indicator is met

Indicator B.2.1.3. IOSUD has created mechanisms to ensure that the training program based on advanced university studies, related to the evaluated field, aims at "learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills and responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through research activities.

Recommendations:

Revising the subject sheets and introducing within them the competencies and skills that doctoral students acquire after completing it.

The foreign expert considers that it is necessary to modernize the curriculum by addressing the double, ecological and digital transition.

The indicator is met

Indicator B.2.1.4. Throughout the entire duration of the doctoral training period, doctoral students in the field benefit from the advice/guidance of functional guidance committees, an aspect reflected through guidance and points of view expressed in writing or regular meetings.

Recommendations:

Preparing minutes with during working meetings between doctoral students and the advisory board.

Publication of scientific articles in groups that include members of the advisory board.

The foreign expert recommends that doctoral students participate in periodic seminars in which they present their research progress and receive feedback from colleagues and the advisory board.

The indicator is met

Doctoral students currently publish every year.

Indicator B.2.1.5. For a field of doctoral studies, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing guidance should not be greater than 3:1.

Recommendations

Increase the number of members in the guidance committee by involving young people in these committees.

Increase the number of doctoral supervisors in the field, by encouraging young people with very good research results, given that many doctoral supervisors in the field are close to retirement age.

The indicator is met

Criterion B.3. Results of doctoral studies and their evaluation procedures

Standard B.3.1. Research is capitalized on by doctoral students through presentations at scientific conferences, scientific publications, through technology transfer, patents, products, service orders.

Indicator B.3.1.1. For the evaluated field, there is at least one article or other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained the doctoral degree in the last 5 years. From this list, the evaluation committee members randomly select for analysis 5 such relevant articles/contributions per field of doctoral studies. At least 3 of the selected articles present significant original contributions in the targeted field.

Recommendations:

Better dissemination of research results through publication of articles and participation in conferences.

PhD students in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas publish a very small number of scientific articles, limited to the CNATDCU requirements for the award of the doctoral degree

The indicator is met

Indicator *B.3.1.2. The ratio between the number of presentations by doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies in the evaluated period (last 5 years), including poster presentations, exhibitions, made at prestigious international events (held in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies in the evaluated period (last five years) is at least equal to 1.

Recommendations

Encouraging participation in conferences, scientific events and their financial support.

Comment: The foreign expert considers that the indicator is not met and recommends the participation of doctoral students in as many conferences as possible, but also increasing the number of doctoral students who complete their thesis. The members of the commission consider that this indicator is partially met and that there are resources for the number of participation in conferences to increase.

The indicator is met

Indicator *B.3.2.1. The number of doctoral theses assigned to a specific referee coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD, must not exceed two (2) for theses coordinated by the same doctoral supervisor, in one year.

Observation:

This situation is explained by the fact that the Mining, Oil and Gas field is a niche field, which leads to the existence of a small number of specialists. Given that the minimum number of theses assigned to a referee was exceeded before the ARACIS Methodology was introduced, we can consider that the indicator is met.

Indicator is met

This indicator is currently being met, with the referee base being expanded.

Indicator *B.3.2.2. The ratio between the number of doctoral theses assigned to a specific scientific referee from a higher education institution other than the one where the doctoral thesis defense is organized and the number of doctoral theses defended in the same doctoral field within the doctoral school must not be higher than 0.3, by reference to the situation recorded in the last five years. It is analyzed only if in the evaluated doctoral field at least ten doctoral theses have been defended in the last five years.

Recommendations:

Selection of specialists as official referees (including those from higher education institutions or research institutes abroad) in compliance with the requirements of the ARACIS Methodology.

Comment: the foreign expert considers that the indicator is not met, without taking into account the fact that the exceedance occurred before the appearance of the ARACIS Methodology, which

regulates the ratio between the number of doctoral theses assigned to a specific scientific supervisor from a higher education institution other than the one where the doctoral thesis defense is organized and the number of doctoral theses defended in the same doctoral field within the doctoral school.

The indicator is met

Criterion C.1. Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality assurance system

Standard C.1.1. The institutional framework exists and relevant policies and procedures are applied for internal quality assurance.

Indicator C.1.1.1. The doctoral school in which the field of doctoral studies falls provides evidence of the constant implementation of the process of evaluation and internal quality assurance in accordance with a procedure developed and applied at the IOSUD level, among the evaluated criteria being mandatory:

- a) the scientific activity of the doctoral supervisors;
- b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary for the development of research activity;
- c) the regulations and procedures on the basis of which doctoral studies are organized;
- d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;
- e) the training program based on advanced university studies of doctoral students;
- f) social and academic support services (including participation in various events, publication of articles, etc.) and counseling services made available to doctoral students.

Recommendations:

To develop an annual evaluation and/or self-evaluation procedure for doctoral supervisors and doctoral students in the field of Mining, Oil and Gas.

To prepare annual reports at the level of the field.

Comment: The foreign expert considers the indicator fulfilled and recommends that doctoral theses be available in their entirety on the institution's website, not just their summaries.

The indicator is fulfilled

The doctoral theses are on the REI platform

Indicator C.1.1.2. During the doctoral training period, evaluation mechanisms are implemented to identify the needs and the general level of satisfaction of doctoral students with the doctoral university study program, in order to continuously improve academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results obtained, it is proven that a plan of measures has been developed and implemented

Recommendations:

Implementation of feedback mechanisms and periodic analysis of the level of satisfaction of doctoral students with a view to continuously improving academic and administrative processes, based on a plan of measures.

Conducting satisfaction questionnaires for doctoral students dedicated to the scientific research program (distinct from the evaluation of teaching staff by students).

The indicator is met

Criterion C.2. Transparency of information and accessibility to learning resources

Standard C.2.1. Information of interest to doctoral students, future candidates, and information of public interest is available for consultation in electronic format.

Indicator C.2.1.1. IOSUD publishes, on the website of the higher education institution, in compliance with the regulations in force regarding data protection, information such as:

- a) the regulations of the doctoral school;
- b) the admission regulations;
- c) the doctoral study contract;
- d) the regulations for completing studies, which also include the procedure for publicly defending the thesis;
- e) the content of training programs based on advanced university studies;
- f) the scientific and scientific profile, thematic areas / research topics of the doctoral supervisors in the field, as well as their institutional contact details;
- g) the list of doctoral students in the field with basic information (year of enrollment; supervisor);

- h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;
- i) links to the summaries of the doctoral theses to be publicly defended, as well as the date, time, place where they will be defended, at least 20 days before the defense.

Recommendations:

Presentation of all information in an international language to increase visibility.

Indicator is met

Standard C.2.2. IOSUD / Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources necessary to carry out their doctoral studies.

Indicator C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to a platform with academic databases relevant to the analyzed doctoral study field.

Recommendations:

The indicator is met

Indicator C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student has access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic creations

Recommendations:

It is recommended that doctoral students have access to plagiarism detection software for scientific papers, research reports, etc.

The indicator is met

Indicator C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specifics of the field/fields within the doctoral school, according to internal regulations.

The infrastructure must be updated taking into account the dual, green and digital transition in research at European level.

Indicator is met

Criterion C.3. Degree of internationalization

Standard C.3.1. A strategy exists and is applied to increase the degree of internationalization of doctoral studies.

Indicator *C.3.1.1. IOSUD, for the assessed field of study, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies carrying out activities in the field studied, which aim at the mobility of doctoral students and teaching staff (e.g. ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral study cycle). At least 35% of doctoral students have completed a training internship abroad or another form of mobility, such as participation in international scientific conferences. IOSUD develops and implements policies and action plans aimed at increasing the number of doctoral students participating in training courses abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.

Recommendations:

Encourage doctoral students to participate in international conferences, to participate in training courses abroad, since the number of participations in conferences is very low.

It is recommended that the doctoral training program include a module to deepen their knowledge of the English language, which would also lead to an increase in the number of participations in conferences abroad.

The indicator is met

Indicator C.3.1.2. Within the assessed field of study, the organization of international co-supervision doctorates is supported, including financially, and the invitation of top-ranking experts to hold courses/lectures for doctoral students

Recommendations:

Organization of international co-supervision doctorates and the co-optation of experts to hold lectures within the advanced training program for doctoral students, while encouraging the writing of doctoral theses in an internationally spoken language.

It is recommended that the doctoral training program include a module to deepen knowledge of English, which would also lead to an increase in the number of theses written in an internationally spoken language.

The indicator is met



Indicator C.3.1.3. The internationalization of activities within doctoral studies is supported by concrete measures (for example, participation in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; inclusion of international experts in doctoral theses supervision or defense committees, etc.).

Recommendations:

Inclusion of international experts in the study completion committees, as official referees.

The indicator is met

V. SWOT analysis of the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS

<p style="text-align: center;">Strong points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Research infrastructure suitable for doctoral studies, both within the faculties of universities and within research centers; ✓ Capacity to face challenges through research and innovation; ✓ Doctoral supervisors with national and international visibility, with scientific publications in publications in international databases; ✓ Existence of Research Centers through which research projects are carried out in which doctoral students are also involved; ✓ Low dropout rate of doctoral studies. ✓ Very high acceptance rate of foreign doctoral students 	<p>INTERNAL FACTORS</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Weak points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lack of scholarships granted by the economic environment to PhD students; ✓ Relatively low retention rate of PhDs in research or teaching positions; ✓ Insufficient promotion of the research capabilities available in the PhD field of Mining, Oil and Gas; ✓ Relatively small number of research projects, with internal or external funding, in which PhD students are involved; ✓ Insufficient capitalization of Erasmus mobility for PhD students; ✓ Lack of complete information in English on the university's website.
	<p>Analiza SWOT</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Timely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Growing needs on the labor market for specialists (doctors or doctoral students) to carry out research projects and/or to increase the competitiveness of organizations; ✓ Preparation to face new trends in specific research, with its leading directions; ✓ Existence of platforms that provide access to international databases for the research undertaken by doctoral students, but also for the dissemination of the results of the research undertaken; ✓ Collaborations with the business environment in the doctoral field of Mining, Oil and Gas. 	<p>FACTORI EXTERNI</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Decreased interest in doctoral studies among master's degree graduates, also caused by the increased attractiveness of sectors with the potential for quick material gains; ✓ Decreased number of doctoral places with funding from the state budget; ✓ Insufficient dissemination of information regarding doctoral studies in English, with a negative impact on promoting the educational offer and attracting international students; ✓ Decreased budget allocated by the MEC;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>UPG part of the European Ecological Pact (Green Deal) project - green hydrogen in collaboration with Petrom, Hygrid 20 with E.ON.</i> ✓ <i>Continuous identification of the empowerment capacity for members of the academic community and encouraging them to take the necessary steps to obtain the empowerment certificate.</i> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Absence of an organization of doctoral graduates, generating the absence of appropriate feedback and difficulties in using the opportunities generated by them in the future.</i>
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VI. Main challenges and development directions

Main challenges and development directions

The doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS of IOSUD UPG in Ploiești has had a significant development in the last 5 years by increasing both the number of doctoral supervisors, the number of completed theses, and the number of doctoral students, including international ones.

VI.1. Main challenges

The main challenge consists in increasing the attractiveness of pursuing doctoral studies by master's degree graduates. Another challenge is the increase in the fee for doctoral students with fees.

VI.2. Development directions

In accordance with the existing facilities, doctoral theses within the doctoral field MINES, OIL AND GAS must be extended to equipment and technologies in the "unconventional" category and with reduced polluting emissions "renewable and green energies". There are already completed or working theses in these directions, but we believe that this direction is much more promising.

Another direction is to increase the number of theses to be carried out under co-supervision. At the time of writing, in the doctoral field of MINING, OIL AND GAS, we have 4 doctoral students under co-supervision.

VII. ANNEX LIST

Annex University founding documents and law on the organization of doctoral studies
 Annex. Internal evaluation report, coordinator, international evaluator and progress report
 Annex. Doctoral theses MPG 2015-2020 and Doctoral theses MPG 2021-2026
 Annex. CSD -CSUD meetings
 Annex. Doctoral university studies contract budget and Doctoral university studies contract fee
 Annex. PPA PCS
 Annex CA Decision regarding the access of doctoral students
 Annex Similarity reports
 Annex. Decisions of the academic guidance and integrity committee
 Annex. Application and PV exam-research report
 Annex. Review report for MPG doctoral students and Coordination Committees
 Annex. Similarity reports for REI platforms-Model for evaluation of similarity report-Model for evaluation of similarity report for authorized person
 Annex. Annex F 714 SD report for CSUD validation, public defense of the thesis
 Annex. PO 08.01 Satisfaction assessment and satisfaction questionnaire for students-teaching staff-employers
 Annex. Reporting-Articles-Research Gala for doctoral students
 Annex. Research infrastructure equipment-spaces-agreements-contracts
 Annex. Situation of doctoral students internship for ACQUISITIONS 2025_2026 with amounts
 Annex. International visibility
 Annex. AEROQ audit 2020 and 2025 and CSUD-SD audit plan 2026
 Annex. F040 Study program sheet .